

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DR. DAVID SATCHER, THE
PEOPLE'S SURGEON GENERAL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, during this month long recognition of Black History Month it is a privilege for me to honor the second African-American to serve as this country's U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. David Satcher. Tomorrow, Dr. Satcher will conclude his term. I rise in recognition of the leadership, compassion, dedication and vision that he has exhibited during his tenure as the 16th Surgeon General of the United States.

A native Alabaman and graduate of Morehouse College, Dr. Satcher received both his M.D. and Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University in 1970. After years of study, Dr. Satcher put his expertise into practice first as a faculty member at the UCLA School of Medicine and Public Health and later as Chairman of the Department of Family Medicine at the King-Drew Medical Center in Los Angeles, where he also directed the King-Drew Sickle Cell Research Center for 6 years. Returning to his alma mater in 1977, Dr. Satcher then went on to serve as professor and Chairman of the Department of Community Medicine and Family Practice at Morehouse School of Medicine before being elected President of Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, a post he held from 1982 to 1993.

A learned, well-educated professional and a father of four, Dr. Satcher entered public service in 1993 as the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, posts he held until 1998 when he assumed his current position as Surgeon General. During the period of February 1998 to January 2001, Dr. Satcher served simultaneously in the positions of Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary for Health.

As Surgeon General, Dr. Satcher advocated for and worked towards the promotion of healthy lifestyles, the improvement of the mental health system, and the elimination of disparities in health. Mr. Speaker, The National Center for Health Statistics reports that 60 percent of Americans more than 20 years of age are overweight or clinically obese and that weight-related conditions are the second leading cause of death in the United States, resulting in about 300,000 preventable deaths each year. What is so sad is that most of these deaths can and should be prevented. Realizing this, Dr. Satcher used his office to focus national attention on nutrition; he educated Americans about the value of maintaining a balanced diet with more vegetables and less sugar, and he stressed the necessity of regular exercise. Recognizing the fact that obesity can substantially increase a person's risk of illnesses such as breast, colon, ovarian, and prostate cancers, as well as type 2 diabetes and heart disease, I would like to personally

thank the Surgeon General on behalf of all Americans who have undoubtedly benefited from the preventative efforts he initiated and oversaw during his tenure.

Believing in the importance of mental as well as physical health, Dr. Satcher also worked to improve the mental health system to one of caring and support—not blame and stigmatization—and towards the developing of sound strategies for suicide and violence prevention. When Congress called for the development of a national strategy for suicide prevention, Dr. Satcher wholeheartedly embraced the challenge and responded with the dynamic leadership that has become his trademark. The National Strategy for Suicide Prevention was published in May 2001 and I am proud to say that we now have a unified, governing text to guide our national effort to prevent the loss of the nearly 30,000 lives claimed annually by suicide.

In addition to his efforts to promote healthier American lifestyles and to better the condition of the mental health system, Dr. Satcher also acted in an effort to eliminate socio-economic based disparities that remain prevalent in the U.S. healthcare system. He was not afraid to address controversial issues, like needle exchange, when he felt that a change in public policy would save lives. Using the best available science, and operating under the belief that the entire nation benefits from the protection of the health of the most vulnerable, Dr. Satcher and his team focused on six key issues, infant mortality, child and adult immunizations, HIV/AIDS, cardiovascular disease, cancer screening and management, and diabetes, all of which have an especially large impact on minority populations.

Dr. Satcher's goal while in office was to be remembered as the Surgeon General who listened to the people and who always responded to their needs and concerns. Looking back on the last 4 years from the vantage point of this last day of Dr. Satcher's term, it is abundantly clear that he more than accomplished that goal, and that indeed he far exceeded it. Dr. Satcher not only lent an ear to those with a voice, but spoke up for those whose voice could not be heard. In all that he did as the 16th Surgeon General of the United States, Dr. Satcher always acted as a true and honest servant of the people. And for this, for his dedicated service to American healthcare, his country commends him.

RECOGNIZING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the annual celebration of Catholic Schools' Week.

Each year, over 3,500 Catholic schools across our nation celebrate Catholic Schools'

Week to recognize the educational and social contributions of America's Catholic schools. This year's 28th Catholic Schools' Week theme, "Catholic Schools Where Faith and Knowledge Meet," exemplifies a major benefit of receiving a Catholic School education.

Catholic schools foster their students with a strong sense of faith, spirit, and Christian service. These are important values which we must promote, especially in light of the events of September 11th. Catholic schools teach a diverse student body from all faiths and races. In fact, 25.6 percent of Catholic school students are minorities. In some inner-city schools, a majority of students are non-Catholic.

It is important that we continue our strong support for Catholic Schools. Catholic education is internationally recognized for its academic excellence and emphasis on the development of the heart, mind and soul. We must promote the growth and continued success of Catholic schools by ensuring they have Internet access, abundant libraries and safe learning environments.

I have worked closely with the Catholic schools in my district, such as helping provide Internet services to the St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School in Houston, visiting Catholic school facilities, and reading to students.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the contributions made by our nation's Catholic Schools. I would like to especially recognize the dedicated teachers, principals, school administrators and parents in my Texas Congressional district for their hard work and devotion.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAHLON "BUTCH" WHITE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual from Pueblo, Colorado. Over the years, Mahlon "Butch" White has distinguished himself as a business executive, a community leader, and a vital participant in the funding of civic organizations and activities throughout the region. Butch's achievements are impressive and it is my honor to recognize several of those accomplishments today. Butch is a generous soul whose good deeds and generous acts certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation.

Butch was the former owner and operator of Minnequa Bank in Pueblo, a successful business operation he has run since his late twenties. He has carried on a long line of tradition in the banking industry, dating back to his great-grandfather, Mahlon, of whom he owes his namesake. As such, the White family has served the Pueblo community throughout the last century with professionalism and high standards and continues to serve as a model

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

family for Pueblo as well as the State of Colorado.

Throughout his life, Butch and his wife Maylan, have ensured that the White family remain true to its roots and give back to a community that has provided his business the resources to prosper throughout the bank's long history. The family charity, known as the Mahlon Thatcher White Foundation, has provided funds to charitable and community organizations in Pueblo for decades. The organization is a proud supporter of the YMCA, Pueblo Library District, the Sangre de Cristo Arts center, and the Pueblo Zoo, and a handful of other organizations in the area. Through these donations, the City of Pueblo has enjoyed a prosperous history and high culture rating that has elevated the area as a top destination in Southern Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, Butch White's list of achievements have not been overlooked during his career and his efforts have been repeatedly awarded over the years. It is now my honor to congratulate Butch on his most recent and well-deserved award from his own community, the Citizen of the Year Award, provided by the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce. On receipt of his award, Butch remained true to his philanthropic standards while a member of the chamber announced a further \$50 million will be additionally donated to the community from the foundation. Butch has been a model citizen for the community and I extend my thanks to his charitable efforts. Keep up the good work Butch, and good luck to you and your wife Maylan in your future endeavors.

HONORING THE CITY OF SUN VALLEY, IDAHO, ON ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OLYMPICS

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a place I'm proud to represent. It's a place with rolling hills and snow-capped mountains, dazzling celebrities and home to a world class ski resort: Sun Valley, Idaho. On Friday the 19th Winter Olympics will begin in Utah. For three weeks, we'll see skating, skiing, curling, bobsledding and high jumping. For many of the athletes the trip to Salt Lake City will only be a few hours in the car, because they've been training in Idaho for weeks.

I'd like to honor Sun Valley Co. for hosting these tremendous athletes and for their contribution to the Winter Olympics. Sun Valley has opened its doors to these athletes and given them the opportunity to not only adjust to the altitude of the West and Mountain Time Zone, but to America. More than 200 athletes have trained in Sun Valley from countries as far away as the Ukraine and Sweden to as close as Canada. I'm also proud of the Wood River Valley's three Olympiads that will take part in the winter Olympics: Sondra Van Ert, Muffy Davis and Tessa Benoit.

Thank you Sun Valley for hosting the Olympiads and for your continuing support of the Winter Games. Your contribution is noticed and appreciated.

NATIONAL TRIO DAY

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a wonderful program that has helped and encouraged young people in my District and all over this country to complete their education. I am speaking of the TRIO Program.

In the 15th Congressional District, we are plagued with high drop out rates among our youth. In fact, the recent figures published by the U.S. Census Bureau show that 78% of Texans do not have a college degree. This is a tremendous waste of human capital and talent, and we must continue to find innovative ways to tap into this underdeveloped potential.

One program that is making inroads into this problem is the TRIO program. TRIO is made up of several programs including Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math Science, Talent Search, and Student Support Services. These programs promote educational excellence in at-risk students through mentoring, counseling, and support. The goal is to make sure that these students stay in school so they can complete their education and become part of the American dream.

I especially want to bring to your attention the work that is being done by the TRIO programs run by the University of Texas Pan American, Texas A&M Kingsville, South Texas Community College, and Coastal Bend Community College. These dedicated schools in my District are committed to seeing that every student has the opportunity to receive a higher education.

February 23, 2002 has been designated National TRIO Day. I urge my colleagues to take this opportunity to visit their local TRIO programs and encourage these students and the teachers and counselors who are dedicated to their success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, on February 5, 2002, I was attending the funeral of my good friend Darlene Luther in Minnesota and missed roll call votes 6 and 7. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of H.R. 577 (roll call vote 6) and in support of S. 970 (roll call vote 7).

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MEL COLEMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute today to Mr. Mel Coleman, a man whose dedication to his profession, his customers, and his loved ones, is both extraordinary and inspirational. Mel

was not only an incredible rancher and businessman, but, more importantly, a man of unquestioned integrity and of unparalleled morality. He will be sorely missed by each and every person whose life he touched. As his family mourns his loss, I believe it is appropriate to remember Mel and pay tribute to him for his contributions to his city, his state and his country.

Mel Coleman, the great-grandson of pioneers who settled in the San Luis Valley of Colorado in 1870, created a cattle ranching empire by employing a novel and often overlooked practice—listening to his customers. By responding to complaints that there was no good source for hormone-and-stimulant-free beef in the marketplace, Mel turned an unprofitable ranching business into Coleman Natural Products, a \$70 million-per-year empire, which controls 50 percent of the natural beef market and sells to 2,500 retail outlets throughout the United States and Japan. His beef is now preferred by an ever-growing population of people who prefer its taste, which results from the cattle never being given any hormones, antibiotics or growth promotants, and which graze on ground that is never fertilized.

Mel's vision and dedication to his cause is truly remarkable. He was bold enough to venture into an untested market and talented enough to become extraordinarily successful in this endeavor. In 1981, he was the first to receive permission from the United States Department of Agriculture to label his beef "hormone and stimulant free," which subsequently led to an influx of competition into the marketplace that continues to be dominated by Coleman Natural Products. Mel is survived by his wife, Polly, who was always at her husband's side in both business and in life, his two sons, Mel Jr. and Greg, and his daughter Dianne.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by the loss of Mel Coleman, but take comfort in the knowledge that our grief is overshadowed only by the legacy of courage, success and love that Mel left with all of us. Mel Coleman's life is the very embodiment of all that makes this country great, and I am deeply honored to be able to bring his life to the attention of this body of Congress.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN C. HITZ

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Helen C. Hitz, a former employee here on Capitol Hill. Mrs. Hitz recently passed away, on January 15, 2002, at the age of 80.

In 1960, Mrs. Hitz moved to the Washington, D.C. area and began her employment on Capitol Hill in February of 1961 as a secretary and receptionist to the Honorable Frank Moss of Utah. In September of 1961, Mrs. Hitz accepted the position as Secretary to the General Counsel at the House of Representatives Committee on Small Business. In April of 1965, she transferred to the House Committee on Banking and Currency where she was a staff director and supervised several Committee caseworkers. She was also the confidential and personal Secretary to Dr. Paul Nelson, Administrative Assistant to the committee chairman. In July of 1965, Mrs. Hitz accepted the position of Personal Secretary to

Congressman Fernand St. Germain, a Democrat from Rhode Island. She coordinated the work of the Congressman between his personal office and the Committee. Mrs. Hitz retired from Congressional service in 1983 from her position with Congressman St. Germain after more than 20 years of federal civil service.

In 1987, Mrs. Hitz moved from Virginia to Jackson, Tennessee to be near her son, John Hitz. In 1998 she relocated to Holts Summit, Missouri to be near her other son, Charles Hitz, and to her hometown of Jefferson City, Missouri when she lived until her death.

It is always an honor and a privilege to recognize folks who have given a large portion of their lives to government service. It is a noble profession and I am proud to recognize the service of Mrs. Helen C. Hitz.

RECOGNIZING THE HISPANIC ENGINEER NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS CORPORATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work that the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Corporation (HENAAC) is doing to enlighten the Hispanic community and nation about the achievements of Hispanics in science and technology in order to motivate Hispanic students to pursue careers in science and technology.

American students lag behind their counterparts in other developed countries like Japan in the areas of science and math. If America is to hold its technological advantage in an ever complex world, we must close this gap and improve our children's achievements in math and science.

In October, HENAAC will hold its annual conference to honor outstanding Hispanics in nine categories. In addition to the conference, HENAAC, in conjunction with the University of Texas-Pan American in my Congressional district, will also sponsor four special events as part of the International Science and Technology Week. The Hispanic Science and Technology EXPO Day at UT Pan American will bring students, parents, educators and the community together to learn about the importance of science and technology and give students information on career opportunities in engineering, science and math. Thousands of pre-college students will be able to participate in the hands-on interactive workshops, presentations and expositions. Hispanic Science and Technology Educator Day will recognize teachers throughout South Texas and give them opportunities to improve their skills.

In addition to International Science and Technology Week, HENAAC also sponsors student scholarships and a Hall of Fame traveling exhibit.

On February 19, 2002, the University of Texas-Pan American will have a kick-off to encourage students, parents and teachers to participate in the upcoming events. I want to commend HENAAC and the University of Texas-Pan American for their commitment to educating the next generation of Hispanic scientists, mathematicians and engineers.

HONORING BOB SECRIST OF BOISE, IDAHO, ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS REGIONAL OFFICE

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob Secrist, a man who has served Idaho veterans for more than 30 years, on his retirement from the Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office.

As a Vietnam veteran himself, Bob has shown compassion and dedication to veterans of all ages and in all areas of Idaho.

Bob grew up in the farming community of St. Anthony, Idaho where he learned the value of hard work, a firm handshake and an honest heart. He stayed close to home, attending Ricks College and graduating in 1964. He served his church on a two-year mission to the Great Lakes area. When he returned, he joined the Idaho National Guard. While in the Guard, he was called to Vietnam. He was a truck driver, delivering truckloads of gasoline and diesel fuel throughout Vietnam's Central Highlands. His highly explosive convoys negotiated mined roadways, blown up bridges, and sporadic enemy assaults. He returned in August 1969, married his sweetheart Judy in 1970, and graduated from Idaho State University in 1971 with a degree in business.

After graduating, the family moved to Boise, and Bob began his distinguished career at the VA Regional Office. He started out as Claims Adjudicator working stacks of paper to help those who'd been disabled in the line of duty. For many, Bob put a human face to veterans' issues. His outreach on veterans' issues is legendary. If you had a question about veterans' benefits, Bob knew the answer.

In 1974, he was promoted to be the Education Liaison Representative working with Idaho schools under the GI Bill education program. According to his colleagues, Bob was able to streamline the schools' procedures and improve services to veterans enrolled in school. He utilized his claims processing background to work weekends helping adjudicators to write education awards and clearing up processing delays.

Because of his dedication and community involvement, he was named the Chief of the Regional Office's Veterans Services Division in 1990. In this position, he was in charge of state outreach to all veterans and beneficiaries around the state.

Bob always felt compassion for veterans. He never lost sight of who he was working for—not the government—not the VA—but the veterans who had served this country. He made sure the VA Regional Office wasn't an Ivory Tower looking down on the veterans they served. In the face of budget cuts, he was determined to make the Regional Office "veteran friendly." He began a program of partnerships with the Veterans Service Organizations, the VFW, DAV, American Legion, the Wake Island Survivors, the Idaho Department of Veterans Services, and many others.

After the Regional Office was consolidated in the late 1990s, Bob was appointed as the Regional Office Public Information Officer. In that position, he served as a congressional li-

aision, always ensuring that my staff and I was informed about veterans issues.

Bob, for 33 years you've been a shining star in the veterans' community, showing those around you that veterans come before bureaucracy and that good ideas don't need to be buried under the burden of government. I commend you. I congratulate you and on behalf of the thousands of veterans you've served, and I thank you.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JERRY SORENSON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay respect to the passing of a friend, Gerald "Jerry" Edwin Sorensen, who recently passed away at the age of 55. Jerry was a pillar of the Glenwood Springs community and as his family mourns his loss, I think it is appropriate to remember Jerry and pay tribute to him for his contributions to his community.

Jerry will always be forever known as a true sports fan, a man who lived and thrived for sporting events. He is remembered as a superb athlete during his high school years, participating on and playing for the Roaring Fork High School football and baseball teams located in Carbondale, Colorado. His passion for sports continued throughout his life branching into hunting, fishing, 4-wheeling, bowling and watching his favorite football team, the Denver Broncos. Although known for his athleticism and hard work, Jerry's true love was working and interacting with people, particularly his two sons and grandsons. He will be remembered as a devoted husband, father, and friend. He affected the lives of so many of Glenwood's residents with his kindness and his generosity and he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that we note the passing of Gerald "Jerry" Edwin. He was known for his kind heart and the gentle demeanor he displayed throughout his life and his good deeds and dedication to his fellow man certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress. I, along with a grateful community and loving family will miss Jerry dearly.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF LLOYD KIVA NEW

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a recently lost New Mexican who was a devoted Native American educator, artist, and entrepreneur. Lloyd Kiva New had intuition and visionary skills that made him a successful business man; however, more importantly, his humble heart and ambition drove him to aide young Native American students to strive for excellence at the Institute of American Indian Arts.

The Native American community has lost a prolific humanitarian, who devoted much of his

time to encourage young students to climb to a higher level of education. Investing much of his time and energy, aside from his reputation as a renowned artist and entrepreneur, he developed a school intended to teach the values of individuality and excellence among the Native American community.

Not only in Santa Fe but also throughout the nation's Native American communities, New was well respected and admired. Fellow colleagues, family members, and friends will mourn the death of a great public servant. May we remember and keep in our hearts the generosity and accomplishments of Lloyd Kiva New and those whom he left behind.

Those who will continue his legacy are his wife Aysen New, his son Jeff New, and his daughter Nancy Sandroff.

Mr. Speaker, Lloyd Kiva New will be deeply missed, but not forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, February 12, 2002, I was in my congressional district attending an official event. Had I been present in the House Chamber, I would have voted 'yea' on H.R. 2998, to authorize the establishment of Radio Free Afghanistan, and H.R. 3699, to revise certain grants for continuum of care assistance for homeless individual and families.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for Roll Call No. 15, H.R. 2998, to authorize the establishment of Radio Free Afghanistan. Had I been present I would have voted yea.

I was also unavoidably detained for Roll Call No. 16, H.R. 3699, to revise certain grants for continuum of care assistance for homeless individual and families. Had I been present I would have voted yea.

CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill and I'm proud to be a cosponsor of it.

The Cyber Security Research and Development Act is aimed at the important need of increasing attention and funding for cybersecurity. I salute my colleague Mr. Boehlert for recognizing this need to move this legislation to the floor of the House.

The bill authorizes over 800 million dollars for research and grant programs through the

National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. This means that the extraordinary scientists and researchers at research facilities like NASA Ames can continue to find innovative ways to address the many security challenges facing our nation.

NASA Ames provides research leadership and world-class capability in the fields of supercomputing and networking, high-assurance software development, and verification and validation. They have developed an unmatched expertise in areas critical to the security of our networks and infrastructures.

As we know all too well, terrorists can strike in unthinkable ways. To minimize the impact terrorist attacks may have on our ability to communicate and exchange valuable information, we must begin to correct the deficiencies in current U.S. computer and network defenses. Only then will we ensure that the United States is better prepared to prevent and combat terrorist attacks on private and government computers.

It is my hope that the Cyber Security Research and Development Act is the beginning of a long-term investment in establishing a strong national information assurance program. It has my strong support and I urge my colleagues to do so as well.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JULIA HAAG

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a young student from my district whose hard work and dedication has been rewarded with the great opportunity to pursue a higher education. Julia Haag of Florence, Colorado, was recently awarded the Boettcher Scholarship, and as she celebrates her achievement I would like to commend her for her determination and self-sacrifice in achieving this honor. She is certainly a well deserving recipient of this scholarship and I am pleased to represent her and her family in Colorado.

Julia is a senior at Florence High School located in Southern Colorado. After a long, and no doubt difficult process, Julia was selected as a recipient of the Boettcher Scholarship. This scholarship will provide her with free tuition to the Colorado college of her choice, allowing her the opportunity to pursue a higher education degree with the opportunity to study abroad. This is a great program provided within Colorado to allow students to pursue higher education opportunities throughout the state.

Julia has been graced with this opportunity for her hard work, attention to her studies, and exceptional aptitude test scores. She scored in the top percentile for the ACT, and will graduate in the top 5% of her senior class. A necessary requirement Julia has so aptly demonstrated is her leadership abilities among student and youth organizations and active participation in community service projects throughout the region. Upon graduation, Julia plans to attend law school or focus on broadcast journalism. Whatever her decision, I am certain she will successfully excel in her endeavors with the same aptitude she has demonstrated throughout her young life.

Mr. Speaker, the diligence and commitment demonstrated by Julia Haag certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. Julia's achievement serves as a symbol to aspiring college bound students throughout Colorado, and indeed the entire nation. Her reward is proof that hard work and attention to your studies can lead to assistance in achieving your goals. The Boettcher Scholarship is a model program for the states throughout this nation and ensures that our future generations are guaranteed the opportunity to improve their lives through the resources of education. Congratulations Julia, and good luck in your future endeavors!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, due to the birth of my first child, Elizabeth Anne, on February 2, 2002, I was absent for Roll Call Votes No. 6 through 14 from February 5, 2002 through February 7, 2002. I have listed below how I would have voted had I been present.

On Vote No. 6, H.R. 577, to require any organization that is established for the purpose of raising funds for the creation of a Presidential archival depository to disclose the sources and amounts of any funds raised, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 7, S. 970, designating the facility of the US Postal Service located on 39 Tremont Street, Paris Hill, Maine, as the Horatio King Post Office Building, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 8, H. Res. 342, providing for the consideration of motions to suspend the rules for H. Con. Res. 312, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 9, S. 1888, correcting a technical error in the codification of Title 36 of the United States Code, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 10, H. Con. Res. 312, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the scheduled Tax Relief Provided by the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 passed by a Bipartisan Majority should not be suspended or repealed, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 11, H.J. Res. 82, recognizing the 91st birthday of Ronald Reagan, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 12, H. Res. 343, providing for consideration of H.R. 3394, the Cyber Security Research and Development Act, I would have voted, "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 13, H.R. 3394, on passage of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act, I would have voted, "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 14 on the Journal, February 5 through February 7, 2002, I would have voted "Yea."

A TRIBUTE TO BILL MILLS, THE
FATHER OF THE SANTA ANA
RIVER FLOOD CONTROL
PROJECT

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to commend Bill Mills who is retiring on April 1st after completing a successful term as the general manager of the Orange County Water District.

An innovative leader, for the past fourteen years Bill Mills has spearheaded both conservation and reclamation water projects to aid one of the largest counties in the nation. Recognizing the long-term need to reduce Orange County's dependence on imported supplies, Bill has been at the forefront to promote new technologies that would improve the quality of both surface and groundwater supplies. Under his leadership, the Orange County Water District has pioneered some of the most exciting changes in water management as well as maintaining one of the highest financial ratings for a water agency in the state of California.

What was once considered to be only practical in theory, the ability to purify wastewater for reuse, became a reality during Bill's tenure. An accomplished civil engineer, Bill advanced a project referred to as "Water Factory 21," a model water filtration system. This new technology has enabled Orange County residents and businesses alike to recycle a useless product into one of the most important resources needed to maintain irrigation needs during drought. And of course, today, this "new" technology is now the norm for many cities and counties throughout the nation and world. Because of Bill's leadership on this project, Orange County is now taking the next step to transfer this critical technology to help solidify other water needs.

Bill's keen ability to recognize early on the potential of new technologies such as Water Factory 21 have earned him praise and recognition from his colleagues throughout the world and numerous awards, including "Water Leader of the Year." The recognition of the Orange County Water District as a leading public agency is a tribute to his legacy. I know that many of my colleagues here in this House personally gained from Bill's expertise when he traveled several times to Washington, D.C. to testify on groundwater and water quality issues. Always thinking ahead, Bill developed a 20-year master plan to guide the County's future groundwater planning—including tackling a major flood control project for an area that was once considered the biggest flood threat west of the Mississippi. Due in large part to the expertise he shared with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Orange County is no longer designated as a flood threat area.

Today, I join my fellow California colleagues to thank Bill for all of his hard work and dedication. Orange County is a better place to live because of his foresight. In behalf of the United States Congress and all of the people of Orange County whom it is my privilege to represent, congratulations to Bill Mills, and best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

SUPPORT OF NATIONAL SCHOOL
COUNSELING WEEK

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, the American School Counselor Association has declared the first full week of February as "National School Counseling Week." Congress recently recognized the importance of school counseling through the reauthorization and appropriation of the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Improvement Act of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

School counselors have long advocated that the American education system must leave no child behind. Even though students face myriad challenges every day, including peer pressure, depression, and school violence, school counselors help develop the total child by guiding their students toward academic, personal, social and career development.

In addition, school counselors are usually the only professionals in a school building trained in both education and mental health. For this reason, school counselors were instrumental in helping students, teachers and parents deal with the trauma of the aftermath of Sept. 11. Nevertheless, the role and responsibilities of school counselors are often misunderstood and as a result, under budgetary constraints, the school counselor position is often among the first to be eliminated.

The school counselor shortage is prevalent today, as evidenced by the fact that the current national average ratio of school counselors to students is 1 to 561. The American School Counselor Association, the American Counseling Association, the American Medical Association, the American Psychological Association and other organizations recommend a ratio of 1 to 250.

I urge my colleagues to support National School Counseling Week during the first full week of February and I urge communities across the country to participate with appropriate ceremonies and activities. The American School Counselor Association recommends that parents and students should develop a collaborative relationship with their school counselors. School boards and administrators should continue to support students' academic, personal, social and career development through school counseling.

Mr. Speaker, our students' futures are important to us all and school counselors work every day to ensure that our students are well-rounded socially and academically. Let us take a moment to thank our school counselors for their ongoing work in our schools and communities during times of national crisis or students' personal crises by supporting National School Counseling Week.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ROBERT L.
HOMER

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, Colonel Robert L. Homer retired on 26 September 2001 from his

position as the Logistics Group Commander for the 174th Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard in Syracuse. He was appointed to this position on 2 Nov 95.

Col. Homer was born on 28 September 1945 in Ithaca, NY. He graduated from Skaneateles High School in 1963 and earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree from St. Lawrence University, NY in 1967. He went on to graduate from Syracuse University with a Masters in Business Administration Degree in 1971. His military education includes Squadron Officer School, Air Command & Staff College and Air War College.

Col. Homer enlisted in the NYANG in Aug 1968, was commissioned in March 1969 and graduated from Pilot Training in 1970 as Distinguished Graduate. He began working Full-Time at the 174th in 1975 as a Flight Instructor and held various positions within operations to include Ground Training Officer, Stan/Eval Officer, Scheduling Officer, Air Operations Officer and Deputy Commander for Operations. In 1991, when the 174th was activated during Operation Desert Storm, he was assigned as a Mission Director on the Joint Stars Aircraft. Following that, he went on to head the NYS Counter Drug Program for Headquarters, NYANG in Albany, NY. His last assignment prior to his current position was that of establishing the Minimum Essential Airfield (MEA), at Griffiss AFB in conjunction with the Base Realignment and Closure Act of 1995.

Col. Homer is a command pilot, having been combat qualified in the A-37, A-10 and F-16; with more than 4,000 flying hours.

His awards and decorations include The Bronze Star Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device and 4 devices, Combat Readiness Medal with 5 devices, National Defense Service Medal with 1 device, Southwest Asia Service Medal with 2 devices, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with 5 devices, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 1 device, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with 1 device, Air Force Training Ribbon, and Kuwait Liberation Medal.

His military and civic affiliations include the National Guard Association of New York, Militia Association of New York, and the Air Force Association.

Col. Homer resides in Scott, NY with his wife, the former Lynn Bari.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DIANE
PORTER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Diane Porter and thank her for her extraordinary contributions to her community and to her state. As a resident of Pueblo, Colorado, Diane has dedicated herself to helping her community by selflessly giving her time and energy to a number of philanthropic endeavors. The remarkable work she has done with the people in her community is surpassed only by the level of integrity and honesty with which she has conducted herself each and every day. It is with a great deal of satisfaction and pride

that I pay tribute to her today for the tremendous accomplishment of being honored by the United States Justice Department for her significant contributions to her community and to her state.

As Director of the YWCA, Diane has long been active in the Pueblo community and has dedicated a significant amount of her time and efforts to improving community relations and upholding civil rights. Recently, her tireless efforts and extraordinarily selfless endeavors culminated in the creation of the Pueblo Human Relations Commission, a 15 member panel which will discuss divisive community issues, and a long-time dream of Diane's. Along with Sandy Gutierrez, Diane was responsible for the Commission's creation, which will undoubtedly serve as a catalyst for more open discussions on race related issues and other controversial issues facing the Pueblo community. Like all true pioneers, Diane had to overcome a great deal of opposition to see her dream come to fruition, and I commend her for her courage and persistence in the face of such opposition.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Diane Porter is a woman of unparalleled dedication and commitment to her community and to the people whose lives she has touched while serving it. It is her unrelenting passion for each and every thing she does, as well as her spirit of honesty and integrity with which she has always conducted herself, that I wish to bring before this body of Congress. She is a remarkable woman who has achieved extraordinary things and enriched the lives of so many people. It is my privilege to extend to Diane my sincere congratulations on the creation of the Pueblo Human Relations Commission and for the tremendous accomplishment of being honored by the United States Justice Department for her efforts. I wish her the best of luck in all of her future endeavors.

RECOGNITION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the Republic of Kazakhstan for its efforts in assisting the United States in our war against terrorism. Kazakhstan was among the first of our allies to offer its condolences and help after the destruction of September 11th. Indeed, following the terrorist attacks, Kazakh President Nazarbayev took the unprecedented step of visiting the United States Embassy in the Kazakh capital of Astana to sign the Embassy's book of condolences.

On September 15, 2001, President Nazarbayev issued a strong statement of support for our war against Osama Bin Laden and Al Qaeda. In his statement, President Nazarbayev declared that his country would support our own government "in the fight against terrorism with all means available." More importantly, our friends in Astana backed their firm statements with action—offering blanket overflight clearance for U.S. aircraft over the vast Republic of Kazakhstan. Moreover, the Kazakh government has since offered its own airfields and supply bases to the

United States military for use in action against Al Qaeda.

In addition to this strong strategic help, our Kazakh friends have shipped nearly 3,000 tons of wheat and other grains to the impoverished people of Afghanistan. This sort of vital assistance has helped our own nation in a fight not only to rid Afghanistan of its terrorist oppressors, but to resurrect a long-suffering people. A young nation itself, Kazakhstan has also sought to integrate itself into the global alliance against terrorism by offering further food sales to the United Nations World Food Programme in order to facilitate the feeding of the Afghan people.

President Nazarbayev and his countrymen have also shown political courage and leadership in embracing global standards of conduct in international affairs. The Government in Astana has ratified seven international terrorism conventions, while the Governor of the Kazakh Central Bank has pledged to track down and freeze any terrorist financing within the Kazakh Republic. Mr. Speaker, this sort of cooperation and assistance exemplifies the sort of friendship that our own nation treasures and needs in our fight against the evil behind international terrorism. The Republic of Kazakhstan has demonstrated a valiant commitment to protecting freedom by siding with the United States of America. It is my hope that other nations, young and old, will follow the tremendous example of the Kazakh people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, because I was attending to family matters in my home state of Minnesota, I missed Roll Call votes 483–512 of the 1st Session of the 107th Congress and Roll Call votes 2–14 of the 2nd Session of the 107th Congress. I would like the record to show that I would have voted: Aye on Roll Call vote #483, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res. 281, honoring the ultimate sacrifice made by Johnny Michael Spann, the first American killed in combat during the war against terrorism.

Aye on Roll Call vote #484, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3282, the Mike Mansfield Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse Designation Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #485, H.R. 10, the Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #486, approving the Journal.

Nay on Roll Call vote #487, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3295, the Help America Vote Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #488, motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 3295, the Help America Vote Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #489, final passage of H.R. 3295, the Help America Vote Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #490, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res 282, expressing the Sense of Congress that the Social Security promise should be kept.

Aye on Roll Call vote #491, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 3209, the Anti-Hoax Terrorism Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #492, on passage of H.R.

1022, the Community Recognition Act of 2001. Aye on Roll Call vote #493, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, H.R. 3448, the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Response Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #494, on motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 3338, the Department of Defense Appropriations Conference Report for FY 2002.

Aye on Roll Call vote #495, on closing portions of H.R. 3338, the Department of Defense Appropriations Conference Report. Aye on Roll Call vote #496, on the Conference Report to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002. Nay on Roll Call vote #497, on the Conference Report to H.R. 1, the No Child Left Behind Act. Nay on Roll Call vote #498, to provide for the consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules.

Aye on Roll Call vote #499, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3379, the Raymond M. Downey Post Office Building. Aye on Roll Call vote #500, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3054, the True American Heroes Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #501, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3275, the Terrorist Bombings Convention Implementation Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #502, to suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2657, the District of Columbia Family Court Act.

Aye on Roll Call vote #503, to suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2199, the District of Columbia Police Coordination Amendment Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #504, on agreeing to the Conference Report to H.R. 3061, the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2002. Aye on Roll Call vote #505, on agreeing to the Conference Report to H.R. 2506, the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2002.

Nay on Roll Call vote #506, on agreeing to the Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules. Nay on Roll Call vote #507, on agreeing to the H. Res. 320, providing for consideration of H.R. 3529; to provide tax incentives for economic recovery and assistance to displaced workers. Aye on Roll Call vote #508, motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 3529, the Economic Security and Worker Assistance Act. Nay on Roll Call vote #509, final passage of H.R. 3529, the Economic Security and Worker Assistance Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #510, on agreeing to the conference report to the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2002.

Aye on Roll Call vote #511, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.J. Res. 75, as amended, Regarding the Monitoring of Weapons Development in Iraq, as Required by United Nations Security Council Resolution 687 (April 3, 1991). Aye on Roll Call vote #512, on motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 1762, to establish fixed interest rates for student and parent borrowers, and for other purposes. Aye on Roll Call vote #2, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 700, to reauthorize the Asian Elephant Conservation Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #3, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 2234, the Tumacacori National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #4, on passage of S. 1762, Higher Education Act Amendments.

Aye on Roll Call vote #5, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 335, honoring the contributions of Catholic Schools. Aye on Roll Call vote #6, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 577, as amended, to require any organization that is established for the purpose of raising funds for the creation of a Presidential archival depository to disclose the sources and amounts of any funds raised. Aye on Roll Call vote #7, on motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 970, Designating the facility of the US Postal Service located at 39 Tremont Street, Paris Hill, Maine, as the Horatio King Post Office Building. Nay on Roll Call vote #8, on ordering the previous question, H. Res. 342, providing for the consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules.

Aye on Roll Call vote #9, on motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 1888, to correct a technical error in the Codification of Title 36 of the United States Code. Nay on Roll Call vote #10, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, H. Con. Res. 312, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the scheduled Tax Relief Provided by the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 passed by a bipartisan majority in Congress should not be suspended or repealed. Aye on Roll Call vote #11, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.J. Res. 82, recognizing the 91st birthday of Ronald Reagan. Aye on Roll Call vote #12, on agreeing to H. Res. 343, providing for consideration of H.R. 3394; Cyber Security Research and Development Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #13, on passage of H.R. 3394, the Cyber Security Research and Development Act. Aye on Roll Call vote #14, approving the Journal.

TRIBUTE TO CASEY
FITZRANDOLPH

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Casey FitzRandolph, Olympic Gold Medal winner at the Salt Lake City games. This year's Olympic Games have a special meaning to Americans who have come together with unity and pride in these troubling times. I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent whose incredible accomplishment made us all proud to be Americans.

Casey FitzRandolph, of Verona, Wisconsin, won the Gold Medal yesterday in the 500-meter Men's Speed skating competition. He is the first American to win the Gold in this competition since Eric Heiden, also from the second district of Wisconsin, swept the Olympics in Lake Placid in 1980.

When he was five years old, Casey FitzRandolph proclaimed that he would grow up to be just like Eric Heiden, who was there cheering Casey on in his Gold Medal victory last night. Another Wisconsite, Kip Carpenter, took home the Bronze Medal as well, skating in the final pair with Casey in a very special Olympic moment.

In the spirit of Eric Heiden, Dan Jannsen and Bonnie Blair, this new generation of Wisconsin speed skaters has made their state, their nation and the entire world proud.

In recognition of the sacrifice of his parents, Jeff and Ruthie, his grandparents, his sister

Jessi, and his fiancée Jennifer Bocher, I want to wholeheartedly congratulate Casey FitzRandolph for his accomplishment.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SANDY
GUTIERREZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to pay tribute today to a woman whose incredible heart and extraordinary efforts have made an indelible impact on the community of Pueblo and the State of Colorado. Sandy Gutierrez is both inspirational and courageous, and a true testament to the inherent greatness that resides in all of humanity. Throughout her life, she has consistently given her time, effort and love to others, and it is with a great deal of satisfaction and pride that I pay tribute to her for the tremendous accomplishment of being honored by the United States Justice Department for her significant civil rights contributions.

As Director of the Latino Chamber of Commerce, Sandy has long been a champion of civil rights and has dedicated a significant amount of her time and efforts to improving relations in the Pueblo community. Recently, her tireless efforts and extraordinarily selfless endeavors culminated in the creation of the Pueblo Human Relations Commission, a 15 member panel which will discuss divisive community issues, and a long-time dream of Sandy's. Along with Diane Porter, Sandy was responsible for the Commission's creation, which will undoubtedly serve as a catalyst for more open discussions on race related issues and other controversial issues facing the Pueblo community. Like all true pioneers, Sandy had to overcome a great deal of opposition to see her dream come to fruition, and I commend her for her courage and persistence in the face of such opposition.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before you today in order to bring the accomplishments of such an extraordinary woman to the attention of this body of Congress. Sandy Gutierrez has been instrumental in improving her community and her state, and I, along with the people whose lives she has so profoundly affected and enriched, are eternally grateful for everything she has done. I wish to offer her my sincere congratulations today on the creation of the Pueblo Human Relations Commission and for the tremendous accomplishment of being honored by the United States Justice Department for her efforts. I wish her the best of luck in all of her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO STATE SENATOR
MARK HILLMAN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker it is an honor to rise today to express congratulations to an outstanding member of the Colorado State Legislature, Senator Mark Hillman of Burlington, Colorado. The National Republican

Legislator Association recently named Senator Hillman Legislator of the Year for the year 2001. Senator Hillman continues to be of tremendous service to the state of Colorado and I am pleased to recognize his achievements today.

In a recent edition of The Wray Gazette Senator Hillman was quoted as saying, "I'm truly honored to be chosen for this year's award among the hundreds of qualified candidates nationwide." Mark's humility makes him a fine public servant and the state of Colorado is proud of his achievements in the Colorado General Assembly. This award follows the Senator's recognition in August as Legislator of the Year by the American Legislative Exchange Council.

Mark enjoys his position immensely and his dedication to his post as state senator is evident in his success in the state legislature. He holds the highest degree of personal fairness and integrity while also carrying his strong convictions on to the floor of the state legislature.

I am privileged to be a colleague of the distinguished Senator Hillman. The state of Colorado is fortunate to have a man of such integrity and character to serve it. On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, and especially those of the Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate Senator Hillman on his recent achievements. Furthermore, I ask the House to join me in congratulating State Senator Mark Hillman for this high honor.

TESTIMONY OF BETTY R. MOSS

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, as we debate the merits of reforming our nation's pension system, I would like to share with my House colleagues the experience of Ms. Betty R. Moss, a recent retiree of the Polaroid Corporation. Her compelling testimony, prepared for delivery before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, paints a vivid and disturbing portrait of the vulnerability of workers and retirees under our current pension and bankruptcy laws. I ask my colleagues to consider her poignant words, and join with me in enacting new protections to ensure retirement security for all workers and retirees.

TESTIMONY OF BETTY R. MOSS BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS, DATED FEB. 7, 2002

Good morning. My name is Betty Moss, and I am a former Polaroid employee. I am accompanied today by Karl Farmer, chairman of the Official Committee of Retirees for Polaroid Corporation. I am also accompanied today by counsel for the Official Committee of Retirees, Scott Cousins, of Greenberg Traurig.

I am 56 years old and I live in Smyrna, Georgia with my husband, Lawrence. We have been married for 32 years and have one son, Tom.

I started working for Polaroid more than 35 years ago as a file clerk, soon after finishing high school. My job was eliminated last July, and I retired from Polaroid, finishing my career as the Senior Operations Manager of Polaroid's Atlanta Business Center.

As senior manager I was responsible for more than 100 employees as well as all administrative and operational decisions associated with Polaroid's business operations in Atlanta. My budget responsibilities totaled several million dollars, but the "people responsibilities" were even more important to me.

I am quite familiar with Polaroid's management team and the company's current state of financial distress. I know first hand about the impact of the decisions made by the current management team on the employees for whom they were responsible. I've seen the impact on file clerks, on engineers, on call center representatives, on people at every level of the organization. These are people that I care about, and they are now in pain.

When I retired in July, Lawrence and I decided to see America. We had always dreamed of traveling, so we packed a camper and headed west for a three-month journey. Four weeks later, our trip was abruptly halted in October, when I realized my severance checks were not being deposited into my checking account! We abandoned our trip and returned home, knowing that something was terribly wrong.

Soon after, we discovered that our medical insurance had been canceled retroactively to the first of October. There was no notice, no warning—we simply found ourselves without medical coverage. I have Lupus and Lawrence is diabetic, so you can imagine our horror! And, while you might think that it was our being on the road that prevented notification about the cancellation of all our retirement benefits, I found that all Polaroid retirees—thousands of us—were in exactly the same boat. No one was notified about the loss of medical and other insurance coverage until days after the company filed for bankruptcy. Weeks went by before the company would even tell us whether we were covered by COBRA.

As a Polaroid employee, I received health and life insurance coverage and I contributed to a mandatory retiree savings plan. When I retired, I expected to continue my health and life insurance at Polaroid group rates and enjoy the benefits of a healthy retirement savings plan through the mandatory Polaroid ESOP. In 1997, four years before I retired, my Polaroid ESOP shares were worth \$60 each. Today, those shares are worth less than a dime each.

Back in 1988, we were told that the ESOP was being established to protect Polaroid from being taken over by other companies. It did help keep us an independent company, and we rejoiced in that. In fact, we all proudly wore ID badges that called us "employee owners". Today, most of us wonder if it would have been better if we had been taken over.

Besides keeping the company independent, we were told that the ESOP was also supposed to mean a healthy retirement for employees. When we were in the first 10 years of the ESOP, our former CEO used to promise "95 in 95" (in other words, that our shares would be worth \$95 a share in 1995). At \$95 a share, my retirement savings plan would have been worth about \$285,000. Now it is worth less than \$300.

Under the mandatory ESOP, all employees were forced to participate by contributing 8 percent of their pay. We were told this was necessary to help fund the \$300 million Polaroid had borrowed to fund the ESOP. None of us had a choice. No one could choose not to invest in the ESOP, regardless of whether our personal circumstances allowed us to "give up" 8 percent of our pay. When the first ESOP was paid off in 1997, Polaroid started a second ESOP (ESOP II), which continued the employees' forced investment in Polaroid stock.

My 8 percent contribution purchased Polaroid common stock, which I could not sell over that 13-year period, no matter how well or how poorly the stock performed. The only exception was the legal requirement that we be allowed to diversify holdings the year after we reached age 55. We had absolute faith the ESOP would be there to supplement our pension fund and social security. We never envisioned that we would be creditors of a bankrupt Polaroid. The ESOP was promoted as a guaranteed retirement savings, which "forced" employees to save money for retirement. Thousands of employees relied on the ESOP stock to fund their retirement savings.

Unfortunately, by forcing us to invest heavily in Polaroid stock for our retirement, the ESOP left us with almost no savings. Prior to 1988, my retirement savings plan was diversified and consistently showed an annual positive return. Up until 1988, I had made regular contributions to the 401(k) plan offered at Polaroid. After the ESOP was forced upon us, I could no longer afford to contribute much to the 401(k). At that time, I was only making about \$35,000, and 8 percent of that started going into Polaroid stock through the ESOP.

Average working people like me cannot raise their families, pay mortgages, educate their children, and still afford heavy contributions toward retirement. So, we had to rely on the ESOP as a major part of our retirement savings plan. By 1997, my ESOP holdings were worth about \$160,000 when the Polaroid share price was about \$60. Although it wasn't as great as "95 in 95", I still felt pretty good.

Unfortunately, because of the forced ESOP contributions and because I had to buy Polaroid stock, my retirement savings were now heavily invested in one stock—Polaroid—which wasn't worth much by the time I retired. What looked pretty good in 1997 at \$60 a share, is today worth about 8 cents a share, as a result of the decisions of the current management team.

When I retired in July 2001, I took all of my ESOP shares and converted them into stock certificates. But all of those who were forced to invest so heavily in Polaroid stock cannot even say today that they own the stock. We later learned that State Street Bank & Trust, the trustee of the fund, started liquidating Polaroid's ESOP shares in mid-November 2001, and completely liquidated the fund by mid-December 2001. After the liquidation was complete, Gary DiCamillo, Polaroid's current CEO, sent out a letter on December 10, 2001 to all employees notifying them that "it was in the best interest of participants in the ESOP fund to liquidate all shares."

I would like to emphasize that these ESOP participants—the "employee owners"—had absolutely no opportunity to approve this sale—it was done completely without their knowledge. Neal D. Goldman, the current Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Chief Administrative Officer, sent a December 18, 2001 letter to ESOP participants stating that an approximate total of 7.2 million shares had been sold at about 9 cents a share.

If you do the math, that means shares of \$687,000 in total value to be shared among thousands of participants. This is a stunning loss, since in 1997, the ESOP fund had an approximate value of \$480 million. What baffles us is this: if the Trustee were truly acting in our best interest—to protect our retirement savings—why did they wait to sell the stock until it was virtually worthless? The stock has been on a downhill slide since 1997. Why not sell when it reached \$10 a share 2 years ago? After all, this was a retirement savings plan! Why not when it reached \$5?

They could have sold it to protect our interests, even if we could not. Why not at least sell when Polaroid filed for bankruptcy and the stock was trading at about 70 cents a share? Many of us cannot understand how the trustee of a retirement savings plan acted "in our best interest" given this set of circumstances. Not only that, the liquidation of those shares means the "employee owners" have almost no influence. We used to own almost 20 percent of the company. Now we cannot even vote on the Polaroid bankruptcy and related matters.

I still own all of my ESOP shares of Polaroid stock, which I will not sell, out of principle. But the recent demise of Polaroid has left me with a loss of approximately \$200,000 in retirement savings. All of this is money that I would have contributed all along to my 401(k) had I not been forced to participate in the ESOP. If I had been able to contribute that money into a diversified 401K program, I am certain it would now be worth more than \$300.

With the complete loss in value of my ESOP-funded retirement savings, and loss of severance pay that I was contractually entitled to receive after leaving Polaroid, retirement looks quite different from what we had planned. When we were young and first married, we went grocery shopping with a calculator. We used the calculator to be sure we only spent what we could afford, and we put back what we could not afford.

After 35 years of working at Polaroid, I now worry that I will have dig out that old calculator again. My husband and I never wanted to be wealthy—we just wanted to be secure in retirement. Medical coverage alone now costs us around \$7,500 a year. I will probably have to find a job later this year so that I can get medical coverage through another employer. However, with the job market being so tight, I'm not sure how easy it will be for a "retiree" aged job seeker to find an employer.

As a former Polaroid manager, I continue to get countless calls from employees who formerly reported to me. They want to know how Polaroid could sell their ESOP shares without their permission. They want to know how it was in their "best interest" to sell the ESOP holdings at 9 cents per share, when their average investment cost was around \$25 per share. I also get calls from other retirees like myself who have been dumped by a corporation that we helped build, and that once cared about us. Unfortunately, I can't answer these very important questions. However, I do know that most long-term and former employees strongly believe Polaroid has a fighting chance to survive this restructuring, to thrive again, and to reinstate the value the shareholders have lost.

Perhaps selling the ESOP shares was not "in the best interests of participants in the ESOP fund" as Mr. DiCamillo explained, but rather in the best interests of Mr. DiCamillo and Polaroid's current management. These are the people who are now working diligently to sell off the company instead of working on a plan to restore Polaroid, which is truly "in the best interests" of all current and former employees, as well as shareholders and creditors.

Thank you.

INCREASING FUNDING FOR STATE
APPROVING AGENCIES**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, today I am introducing on behalf of Mr. EVANS, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. REYES, Mr. FILNER, Mr. BAKER, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. KING, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BALDACCIO, Ms. CARSON, Mr. REYNOLDS, and Mr. MOORE, a bill to increase funding, for State Approving Agencies (SAAs).

Some of my colleagues are familiar with the work of SAAS, but for those who are not, these vital institutions review and evaluate for approval in each state, programs of education that are offered by educational institutions under the Montgomery GI Bill and three other VA veterans' educational assistance programs. SAAs usually operate through state departments of education or postsecondary education commissions. SAAs also approve employer sponsored on-job training and apprenticeship programs, some through state departments of labor.

The need to increase funding for SAAs primarily reflects the new SAA duties in occupational licensing and credentialing and veteran, servicemember and employer outreach in each state.

In recent years, Congress has increased SAA responsibilities, most recently through enactment of Public Law 107-103, the Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001. This landmark legislation increased the basic MGIB benefit by 19 percent in January 2002 to \$800 per month from \$672. It will also increase 30 percent in October 2003 and 39 percent in October 2004 when the benefit again increases to \$900 and \$985, respectively.

But as important as these enacted increases for the MGIB benefits are, our veterans will not be able to take full advantage of the improved educational opportunities unless the SAAs are given the resources necessary to certify high-quality educational programs.

From fiscal years 1995 to 2000, SAA funding was "capped"—without an annual increase—at \$13 million. In Public Law 106-419, enacted on November 1, 2000, Congress increased SAA funding to \$14 million, but only for fiscal years 2001 and 2002. If Congress does not act, in fiscal year 2003 the SAA budget reverts back to the \$13 million level. In effect, our inaction would return SAAs to the FY 1995 funding level, and they would be unable to guarantee our nation's veterans that their hard-earned MGIB benefits will be safeguarded against scam-artists and flimsy programs that seek to exploit veterans.

Indeed, since World War II Congress has relied on SAAs to ensure the quality of the education and training offered to our Nation's veterans and to protect the integrity of VA education programs popularly known as the "GI Bill." My proposal simply increases SAA annual funding from \$14 million to \$18 million, with a three percent increase the following two years, in order to provide SAAs with the resources necessary to fulfill their responsibilities.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO OVERLAND TRAIL
MIDDLE SCHOOL**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to congratulate the students and staff of Overland Trail Middle School of Brighton, Colorado for their work in a recent charity clothing drive. Over the course of one week, the students and parents combined to donate 850 pounds of clothing to needy residents of the town of Brighton.

This is yet another example of the schools dedication to improving the world in which we live. In the fall of 2001, the students contributed to the Twin Towers fund which was set up to support the families of uniformed service personnel lost in the September 11 tragedy. The *Fort Lupton Press* writes, ". . . it's nice to see area students contributing their time and money to such worthy causes around the Brighton area as well as on the East Coast."

It is an honor for the state of Colorado to have such a generous group of students, teachers, and parents. Philanthropic work is a great legacy of the United States and I am proud to see that it is being carried by citizens of all ages. On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, I ask the House to join me in extending congratulations to the students, staff and parents of Overland Trail Middle School.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE 2002 BEA
CHRISTY AWARD NOMINEES**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2002 Bea Christy Award Nominees, who will be honored Friday, February 15, 2002 in Lansing, Michigan for their contributions to improve their communities and neighborhoods.

Bea Christy was a dedicated member of the Eastside Neighborhood Organization for more than ten years until her death. She also worked with other organizations to make the neighborhood and community a better place to live. She was the kind of individual who volunteered to do the "unglamorous" tasks, who worked quietly and diligently behind the scenes, who never sought recognition for her efforts.

First, she was a good neighbor in her immediate neighborhood, welcoming new people, planting flowers in the church yard across the street from her house, taking elderly folks to the doctor, and noticing where the sidewalk needed repairs. She also helped edit and deliver the Eastside Neighborhood Organization newspaper, made soup for the annual fundraiser, and helped plant flowers in the bed on Michigan Avenue.

Bea was also an active member of her church, volunteered with Radio Talking Book, as well as helped to initiate the Lansing area CROP Walk. She made these contributions in addition to being a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother.

It is quiet, committed, unsung people like Bea who make neighborhood organizations

successful, and the community as a whole a better place to live. It is in this spirit that individuals are nominated for an annual award exemplifying the qualities of Bea Christy. The following six criteria must be considered when making a nomination for the Bea Christy Award: variety of activities in your neighborhood organization; unsung nature of contributions; overall good neighbor; reliability; willingness to take on tasks; and, other service to the community.

Friday night, eleven deserving individuals will be recognized as 2002 Bea Christy Award Nominees. I salute the following nominees for their outstanding service to their communities and neighborhoods: Connie Sevrey, Association for the Bingham Community; Mia Tioli, River Point Neighborhood Association; Hannah Gardi, Neighbors United in Action; Mary Rawson, Northtown Neighborhood Association; Ernestine Merritt, Northwest Neighborhood Alliance; Alex Kruzel, Walnut Neighborhood Organization; Rick Kibbey, Eastside Neighborhood Association; Larry Karn, Old Forest Neighborhood Association; Ruth Hallman, Genesee Neighborhood Association; Thomas Foster, Eastern Neighbors; Kathie Dunbar, Sagamore Hill Neighborhood Organization.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the 2002 Bea Christy Award Nominees.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1343, THE
LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to declare my strong support for H.R. 1343, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and to urge its swift passage in the House of Representatives.

In the last five years, approximately 50,000 hate crimes were reported to authorities, with the brutal murders of Matthew Shepard and James Byrd graphically demonstrating to the nation the horrors of violence motivated by hate and bigotry. In 2000 alone, law enforcement agencies in 48 states and the District of Columbia reported 8,063 bias-motivated criminal incidents.

Unfortunately, five states have no laws against hate crimes, and the statutes in another eighteen states fall short of full protection. Even in a state such as Rhode Island, where we have strong laws against hate crimes, law enforcement officials recorded 50 cases of bias-motivated offenses in 2000. Because the current federal hate crimes law only covers crimes motivated by racial, religious or ethnic prejudice, Congress must enact legislation to establish a strong national standard for prosecuting all hate crimes.

To ensure that no American is targeted for violence based on prejudice, I am an original cosponsor of the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which would provide federal assistance to state and local authorities in prosecuting hate crimes. Additionally, the legislation would expand the federal definition of hate crimes to include violent acts motivated by prejudice against the victim's sexual orientation, gender or disability.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important piece of legislation and to demand its immediate consideration in the House. I also wish to express my gratitude to the bill's author, Congressman JOHN CONYERS, as well as to Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY, for their leadership on this important issue. I am confident that we will be able to work in a bipartisan fashion to pass H.R. 1343 and bring an end to hate-based crimes in the United States.

TRIBUTE TO HAZEL GARDNER

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to congratulate Hazel Gardner of Eckley, Colorado. Mrs. Gardner was recently recognized for her fifty years of volunteer work for 4-H at a banquet held in honor of local 4-H leaders.

Mrs. Gardner is a life-long resident of the eastern plains of Colorado and has been active with 4-H since she was nine years of age. In addition to raising her three children she has volunteered with 4-H groups and with state-level governing boards. Fifty years later, she continues to work with children in the program to which she has devoted much of her life.

4-H is a nationally recognized program that boasts the honor of having a chapter in every county in the nation. Over 6.8 million youth participated in 4-H in 2000 with the addition of 610,000 adult volunteers. The 4-H mission is "building a world in which youth and adults learn, grow, and work together as catalysts for positive change."

It is an honor for the state of Colorado to have such an esteemed woman who has dedicated so much of her life to improving the lives of community children. On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, I ask the House to join me in extending congratulations to Mrs. Hazel Gardner.

THE NATIONAL VACCINE INJURY
COMPENSATION PROGRAM IM-
PROVEMENT ACT OF 2002

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to be introducing legislation today to help families that are trying to cope with children who have suffered vaccine-related injuries.

Vaccine injuries may be very rare, but when they do occur, they're devastating. Fifteen years ago, we created the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program. It was supposed to be generous. It was supposed to be non-adversarial. It was supposed to compensate families without tying them up in court for years.

Too many times, this program hasn't worked the way we intended. Last fall, we held two hearings. We heard testimony from parents of injured children. We heard testimony from husbands of injured wives. They told us about

long delays. They told us about overly adversarial tactics. They told us about having to fight for years over injuries that are widely acknowledged to be related to vaccines. We've also heard from families who learned about the program too late to file claims. There is a bipartisan consensus that reforms are needed.

Not every family has faced these kinds of problems. Many families have worked their way through the system without facing the kinds of ordeals we've heard about. However, too many families have faced too many problems for us to sit by and do nothing.

I want to thank HENRY WAXMAN, the Ranking Minority Member of the Government Reform Committee for working with me to put this bill together. I want to thank DAVE WELDON, one of our subcommittee chairmen, for working with us as well. I also want to thank our other original cosponsors, JERROLD NADLER, CONSTANCE MORELLA, BENJAMIN GILMAN, STEPHEN HORN, MARTIN FROST, JOHN DUNCAN, DENNIS KUCINICH, JO ANN DAVIS and TOM DAVIS.

This bill doesn't do everything we'd like to do to fix this program. It's not going to eliminate some of the problems families are encountering. However, I think it's a good first step. I think it's a realistic assessment of what we can accomplish this year. This bill does some very worthwhile things: It changes the calculation for future lost earnings for injured children to make it more generous.

It increases the level of compensation a family receives after a vaccine-related death from \$250,000 to \$300,000. It allows families of vaccine-injured children to be compensated for the costs of family counseling and creating and maintaining a guardianship to administer the award. It allows for the payment of interim attorneys fees and costs while a petition is being adjudicated. It extends the statute of limitations for seeking compensation to six years instead of three. It provides a one-time, two-year period for families to file a petition if they were previously excluded from doing so because they missed the statute of limitations.

I want to briefly mention a couple of the stories we heard during our hearings so my colleagues will have a better understanding of the kinds of problems families are facing.

The first story involves Janet Zuhlke and her daughter Rachel of Florida. Rachel received her pre-kindergarten vaccinations in 1990. Within 6 hours, she had a severe reaction. Within three weeks, she was in critical condition and had to be medi-vac'd to a hospital. Today, Rachel is a mentally retarded teenager. She suffers from periodic bouts of blindness and severe neurological breakdowns that leave her confined to a wheelchair.

Rachel's condition is known as an encephalopathy. Medical experts agree that this is one of the most common injuries caused by vaccines. The connection is so well-established, it's written into the table of vaccine injuries in the law. Despite this, the government attorneys fought for nine years to try to prove a questionable theory that Rachel's injury was caused by a strep infection. For nine years, Janet Zuhlke has had to pay all of Rachel's medical bills without any help.

Last year, she finally won her case. But the process drags on. It could still be another year before the Zuhlkes receive a penny.

Next, I want to talk about the case of Lori Barton and her son Dustin of Arizona. Dustin received a DTP shot in 1989. He began to

have subtle seizures within hours. Eventually, he was diagnosed with residual seizure disorder and he became legally blind.

The Barton's filed for compensation, but the government lawyer assigned to the case set out to prove that Dustin's seizures didn't start as soon after the shot as Lori claimed. At their first hearing in 1993, that lawyer's tactics were so abusive that she was reprimanded by the special master overseeing the case. Lori Barton testified that she felt like she was being treated like a criminal. It took them four years to get to the next hearing, in August 1997. Three months later, Dustin suffered a massive seizure and died.

In 1999, eight years after the Bartons filed their petition, they were finally awarded compensation. But there was one final hitch. The government threatened to appeal the decision unless the Barton's agreed not to have it published so it couldn't serve as a precedent for other families. That's wrong, and we shouldn't accept it.

As I said before, every family that enters the program isn't treated this way. Not every government lawyer is abusive. There are many people who work in this program who sincerely want to help these families. But these aren't isolated incidents. We have real problems here, and Congress needs to address them. For many of these families, the deck is stacked against them, and that's not right.

I want to thank my colleagues who've worked with me to put together this legislation—the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Improvement Act of 2002. It has strong bipartisan support. There are other problems that go beyond the scope of this bill, and we need to address those. But this is a good first step. I hope all of my colleagues will support it.

IN HONOR OF CHRISTOPHER EL-
DERS, RECIPIENT OF A 2002
RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Christopher Elders, a 2002 Rhodes Scholar. On Tuesday, February 12, 2002, Mr. Elders was acknowledged for his outstanding achievement at a dinner reception hosted by U.S. Congressman John Lewis.

A political science major at Morehouse College, Christopher Elders is the only African-American among the 32 students in the United States named to the 2002 Class of Rhodes Scholars. Currently, he serves as the Deputy Executive Director of the Morehouse College Student Government Association (SGA). In this role, he heads the committee responsible for redrafting and modifying the college's code of ethics. Prior to his stint as Deputy Executive Director, Mr. Elders served as an SGA Senator from 1998 until 2000.

While at Morehouse, Elders has done a remarkable job of balancing his academic achievements with his civic responsibilities. He has worked tirelessly as a tutor and mentor to several students enrolled in Atlanta inner-city public schools. In addition, he has served as a volunteer with AID Atlanta, a private agency

that promotes AIDS awareness and prevention.

A Kansas City, MO native, Christopher Elders graduated from Raytown South High School. This fall, he will matriculate at Oxford University in International Relations.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Christopher Elders for his selfless community service and tremendous academic achievements.

REGARDING THE TESTIMONY OF
KARL V. FARMER

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Karl Farmer, a retiree of the Polaroid Corporation, testified before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions last week. I would like to take this opportunity to see that Members of the House also benefit from his powerful testimony on the lack of worker and retiree protections under our current pension and bankruptcy laws. I ask my House colleagues to consider his experience, and join with me in enacting new safeguards to ensure retirement security for all workers and retirees.

TESTIMONY OF KARL V. FARMER, BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

Good morning. My name is Karl Farmer, and I am a former Polaroid employee and chairman of the Official Committee of Retirees for Polaroid Corporation. I am also accompanied today by counsel for the Official Committee of Retirees, Scott Cousins, of Greenberg Traurig, as well as Betty Moss, another former Polaroid employee.

I am 55 years old. I have lived in Roxbury, Medford, Bedford and Lawrence, Mass., and I recently moved to New Hampshire.

I started working for Polaroid more than 30 years ago as an engineer and became a retiree after I left the company on September 29, 2001. At the time I started with the company, Polaroid was one of THE places to work. It was an especially good company for minorities, very progressive. Polaroid was doing affirmative action programs before it became fashionable or mandatory. It was a family company with a caring upper management.

Up until 1988, I had begun to save for my retirement by contributing 2% of my pay to the Polaroid 401 (k). Polaroid matched that contribution dollar for dollar so that I was able to start building for my retirement with a diversified retirement plan.

But in 1988 Polaroid started the mandatory ESOP plan which required employees to contribute 8% of their pay to the ESOP plan. I had always understood that most ESOP plans did not require workers to contribute to them, but Polaroid required that we contribute to this one.

Because of the mandatory requirement that we contribute to the ESOP, I was no longer financially able to contribute to my 401(k). As a result, my retirement was then tied up almost exclusively with the ESOP and Polaroid stock. I have not figured out how much money I would now have if I had continued to contribute to my diversified 401 (k) instead of the ESOP, but I am meeting with a financial advisor from Fidelity next week, and I'm sure they'll be able to tell me the bad news.

I didn't really realize the danger of not being allowed to diversify my retirement account until August 2001 when I was told my job was being eliminated, and I was promised a severance package, which included medical, dental and life insurance coverage at employee prices for six months, along with six months severance pay. This transition period actually took me to retirement—where I could count on my ESOP and pension plans.

The day I was to receive my first severance payment I called to verify that it was being deposited. I later learned that many people who were supposed to receive severance payments that day did not, and the next day Polaroid declared Chapter 11. As a result, Polaroid is not paying my severance, or providing the medical, dental or life insurance it had agreed to. I have been left unemployed with no benefits. I had to break a lease and vacate my apartment. I had also taken out two loans on my 401 (k) plan, and I will now be unable to pay those back. As a result, I'm also going to be hit with a huge tax penalty for making withdrawals on my 401 (k).

As for my ESOP plan, I had 3500 shares which, at their peak, were worth about \$210,000. Without asking me, or apparently anyone else, management decided to liquidate these shares for about \$300.

We learned, after the fact, that State Street Bank & Trust, the trustee of the fund, started liquidating Polaroid's ESOP shares in mid November 2001, and completely liquidated the fund by mid-December 2001. After the liquidation was complete, Gary DiCamillo, Polaroid's current CEO, sent out a letter on December 10, 2001 to all employees notifying them that "it was in the best interest of participants in the ESOP fund to liquidate all shares."

Many of us cannot understand how the trustee of a retirement savings plan acted "in our best interest" by selling the ESOP stock when it reached 9 cents a share. Not only that, the liquidation of those shares means the "employee owners" have almost no influence. We used to own almost 20% of the company. Now we cannot even vote on the Polaroid bankruptcy and related matters. We decided to try to influence the process, even if we were disenfranchised former owners of the company. It took a big effort to pull folks together to fight for what's been promised. People are scattered and we do not have lists of everyone who has been affected. Still, we organized. I'm the chair of the Official Committee of Retirees of Polaroid, which was recently recognized by the bankruptcy court. This allows us legal representation with the bankruptcy proceedings.

The offices of both Senator Kennedy and Representative Delahunt have worked very diligently with us in our fight for justice. And recently a letter was sent to Polaroid's CEO from the entire Massachusetts Congressional delegation denouncing Polaroid's actions. Our committee and its constituents thank you and the other members of the Massachusetts delegation for those clear signs of support. In the same spirit, we urge you to change the rules on ESOP programs to allow employees some control of their own destiny.

TRIBUTE TO SABRINA URAN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to congratulate Sabrina Uran of

La Junta, Colorado. A student at Manzanola High School, Sabrina recently published a poem titled "God Said . . ." in the "Scroll Original Arts Magazine." This piece was the first published for the young author.

Sabrina has always held an interest in the language arts and is very excited one of her pieces has achieved professional recognition. The poem is written in the first person, as a dialogue between the narrator and God. As the Rocky Ford Daily Gazette wrote, "Uran's work is read with a definitive rhythm, which culminates into an impacting finish."

It is an honor for the state of Colorado to have such a young talent recognized for her abilities. It is vital that America encourages all young people to strive for their goals, and Sabrina is a shining example of a young person achieving her aspirations. On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, I ask the House to join me in extending congratulations to Ms. Sabrina Uran.

BURN AWARENESS WEEK

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to Burn Awareness Week. The tragic events of September 11th have created many enduring memories. The attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon not only reminded us of our vulnerabilities to acts of terror but have also demonstrated the horrific nature of burn injuries.

Burn injuries are among the most painful and traumatic injuries one can suffer. Historically, few patients survived serious burn injuries, however because of significant advances in treatment over recent years, this is no longer the case.

I am privileged to have one of the leading burn treatment and research facilities in the country in my Congressional District: The Shriners Hospital for Children Burn Unit. One of four in the country, the Shriners Hospital has pioneered numerous breakthroughs in burn treatment. Not long ago, patients with burns over 50 percent of their body would probably not survive. Today, individuals with burns over 90 percent have a much greater chance of survival.

The four national burn centers run by the Shriners Hospitals treat over 20 percent of all pediatric burn injuries in the United States—more than 156,000 children last year alone. These children were treated free of charge and the hospital does not accept insurance or parental reimbursement. These hospitals provide much more than just treatment. They focus on education and prevention to ensure that burn injuries do not occur, as well as on the psychological and emotional care necessary to restore children who suffer burn injuries to full physical and mental well being.

Burn Awareness Week provides an opportunity to educate children and families about certain risks of burn injury that can be avoided. For example, the Consumer Product Safety Commission relaxed the safety standards for children's sleepwear in 1996. This resulted in a sharp increase in the number of children suffering sleep-wear related burn injuries. Shriners Hospitals have led the effort in Congress to restore stricter safety standards for

sleepwear and to educate parents regarding the dangers inherent in untreated sleepwear worn by many children.

Burn Awareness Week can help foster awareness among parents and protect young children from the horrors of burn injuries. It also focuses additional attention on the research and treatment of those burn injuries that do occur. Mr. Speaker, charitable organizations such as Shriners Hospitals deserve great credit for their outstanding work on behalf of our Nation's children. I rise today to recognize and support the efforts of the Shriners Hospital in Boston and the importance of Burn Awareness Week.

HONORING MR. LONNIE EUGENE
ROARK

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my uncle, Lonnie Eugene Roark, on his 80th birthday.

My uncle was born on February 11, 1922 in Missouri. He was raised in Oklahoma and lived most of his life in La Puente, California.

My uncle is an excellent father to his three children and two grandchildren and serves as a role model for many others. When his daughter's husband passed away, he assumed the role as father figure to his granddaughter. He would often take her lunch to school, school functions, and doctor visits. But most importantly, by taking on a paternal role, he filled that empty void in her life.

His acts of kindness and dedication have inspired many who know him. It is a true blessing to have been raised with a role model like him. It is not every day that we encounter a person filled with such generosity and love.

Today, I want to wish him a happy birthday and because I am especially grateful to be celebrating his 80th birthday because as he grows older, I realize how precious his life is and how he has been a great source of strength and support for our family. I, like many people who know him, admire him and love him dearly.

CHICAGO'S UNDOCUMENTED
IMMIGRANTS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight a recently released study entitled: "Chicago's Undocumented Immigrants: An Analysis of Wages, Working Conditions, and Economic Contributions." This report details the importance of the undocumented immigrant labor force to the local economy and the poor working conditions that many endure. I have included a Washington Post article that appeared on February 10, 2001 and the Executive Summary from the study, which underscores some of the study's most significant findings.

This study was carried out during the 3rd quarter of 2001 through 38 community based

organizations, community colleges, social service providers, and churches. In total, over 1,600 immigrants were surveyed in the Chicago area. The results revealed that the estimated 220,000 undocumented immigrants in the Chicago area contribute close to \$5.5 billion to the local economy. Furthermore, undocumented immigrants create more than 31,000 jobs, make up about 5% of the labor force, and 7 out of 10 or 70% pay income taxes through payroll deductions. The overall impact on the economy is dramatic considering immigrants without legal documentation earn anywhere from 22–36% less than those here legally.

This study provides a glimpse into the urban picture of the enormous contributions undocumented immigrants provide to our economy and the deplorable conditions under which they are subjected to work. With close to 6 million undocumented immigrants working and living in the United States, the potential impact on the national economy and the potential to improve the lives of this population through a legalization program are immeasurable, but they all point in the right direction. I urge my colleagues to look through this study and see for themselves.

[From The Washington Post Feb. 10, 2002]

CHICAGO'S UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

(By Robert E. Pierre)

The push for the legalization of undocumented immigrants was put on the back burner after September's terrorist attacks. But a study released last week reopens the question of what they contribute to the U.S. economy.

The estimated 220,000 undocumented immigrants in the Chicago area add nearly \$ 5.5 billion to the local economy, creating more than 31,000 jobs, according to the study by the Center for Urban Economic Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago. These undocumented workers make up about 5 percent of the labor market, the survey indicated—and seven out of 10 pay income taxes through payroll deductions taken by their employers.

Still, the survey of 1,653 legal and illegal immigrants living in Chicago and five surrounding counties also found that those without legal documentation generally are paid less than those who are legally in the United States. That's true regardless of their education, skill level and English proficiency, particularly among immigrants from Latin America.

"You can have two workers with exactly the same characteristics, and one will earn 20 to 25 percent less because they don't have legal status," said Chirag Mehta, a UIC research associate.

The Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights urged amnesty for such immigrants: "Such findings confirm the importance of a new legalization program and the positive impact that undocumented immigrant labor has on the United States," it said in a statement.

[From the University of Illinois at Chicago]

CHICAGO'S UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS: AN
ANALYSIS OF WAGES, WORKING CONDITIONS,
AND ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Undocumented immigrants are strongly committed to working in the United States and they make significant contributions to the economy. Undocumented workers account for approximately 5% of the Chicago metro area labor market and represent a growing segment of the low-wage workforce.

Undocumented immigrants earn low wages, work in unsafe conditions, and have low rates of health insurance. Juxtaposed against these harsh realities is the fact that the undocumented workforce supports thousands of other workers in the local economy, pays taxes, and demonstrates little reliance on government benefits.

This study reports the findings of a survey of 1,653 documented and undocumented immigrants living in the Chicago metro area. Using a standardized questionnaire, immigrants were asked a series of questions regarding their employment status, wages and working conditions, access to health care, utilization of government safety-net programs, demographic characteristics, and legal status. The key questions that guided this analysis include:

To what extent does working without legal status increase the likelihood of unemployment and depress workers' wages?

To what extent do undocumented immigrants more often work in unsafe working conditions?

To what extent do undocumented immigrants utilize government safety-net programs?

What economic contributions do undocumented immigrants make to the local economy?

KEY FINDINGS

1. Labor force participation and unemployment

Undocumented immigrants seek work at extremely high rates (91%), and most do not experience unemployment at rates that are significantly different than the Chicago metro area average. However, undocumented Latin-American women experience unemployment rates that approach 20%, five times as high as the average unemployment rate for the remainder of the undocumented workforce. Factors that significantly increase the likelihood of unemployment include:

the combined effect of undocumented status, being female, and being of Latin-American origin;

the lack of dependent care; and
obtaining work through temporary staffing agencies.

2. Wages

Most undocumented immigrants are employed in low-wage service and laborer occupations. Approximately, 30% of undocumented immigrants work in restaurant-related, hand-packing and assembly, and janitorial and cleaning jobs. The average (median) hourly wage earned by undocumented workers is \$7.00.

All else being equal, working without legal status, in combination with the effects of national origin and gender, induces significant wage penalties for Latin Americans:

Undocumented Latin-American men and women experience statistically significant wage penalties—22% and 36%—respectively—after controlling for length of U.S. work experience, education, English proficiency, and occupation.

Eastern-European women experience wage penalties as a result of their national origin and gender, but they do not experience penalties associated with their legal status.

Eastern-European men, documented Latin-American men, and immigrants from Asia, the Middle East, and Western Europe do not experience wage penalties associated with their national origin, gender, or legal status.

Factors including English proficiency, unionization, and obtaining employment in higher-paying occupations help undocumented Latin Americans earn higher wages. Educational attainment, however, does not have significant positive wage effects for undocumented Latin Americans. Importantly,

attaining additional levels of education, having English proficiency, and accumulating additional years of U.S. residency do not neutralize the negative wage effect of working without legal status.

All else being equal, securing work in higher-wage occupational categories induces significant wage advantages to undocumented workers and neutralizes the negative wage effect of working without legal status. However, undocumented status limits Latin Americans' access to higher-wage white-collar jobs.

3. Working conditions

Undocumented immigrants report working in unsafe conditions at considerably higher rates relative to immigrants with legal status. Moreover, immigrants without legal status also report alleged wage and hour violations at considerably higher rates relative to documented workers.

Lack of access to health insurance is a significant problem for undocumented workers. Only 25 percent of undocumented workers currently employed are covered by health insurance. The most commonly reported reason for not having health insurance among immigrants who are currently employed is that their employer did not offer health insurance or the employer-sponsored plan was too expensive to access.

4. Use of government benefits and economic contributions

The vast majority of undocumented immigrants reported that they, and adults in their household, do not receive benefits under government safety-net programs, despite their low earnings. Benefit utilization is comparably low among immigrants with legal status.

The consumer expenditures of undocumented immigrants in the Chicago metro area generate more than 31,000 jobs in the local economy and add \$5.45 billion annually to the gross regional product. While exact tax contributions were not calculated, the survey data indicates that approximately 70 percent of undocumented workers pay taxes.

The results of this study strongly suggest that attaining legal status would improve the wages and working conditions of undocumented immigrants. Estimating the size of any wage increase and subsequent wage effects as a result of any changes to federal immigration policy, such as legalization or guest-worker programs, is beyond the scope of this study.

The survey was carried out during the 3rd quarter 2001 through 38 community-based organizations, community colleges, social service providers, and churches. This study was made possible by a grant from the Woods Fund of Chicago.

TRAGEDY

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit a poem written by Ariel Mason, a fifth grader in my Congressional District. Written only a few days after the tragic events of September 11th, Ariel's poem illustrates the depth and immediacy to which the youth of our Nation was touched and changed by that infamous day.

Tragedy

The skies have fallen upon our nation
The horror is overwhelming
We did nothing to deserve such cruelty

Disaster

So many innocent lives lost
To show the shadows of cackling evil
The emptiness is immense

Loyalty

Through the anguishing troubles I will
Stand proudly by the sides of my fellow Americans

And help as I may

To pull this country together once more
Pain

Sheer, pulsing pain

Coursing through the veins of victims
Both physically and mentally wounded
Troubles

Broken hearts weep sullenly
Filled with the shattered endearment
Of their lost companions

Killed by the dark-doings of murderous
Men, so like us, but gruesomely different
Mourning

America's tallest towers

So proud and free
Lost to deadly claws of our invisible attackers
Emotion

We must fight for our proof of innocence
Our dedication to our blessed land
Forever great, throughout all of eternity

Questions

Why? Who could be so terrible?

Only a luring shadow, cold and black as night
Holds our answers

Though stubbornly refusing to share them
Love

Is all we can give

To help our nation through such troubles
To be the best we can

Life ends here for many
And we cherish memories with them
But for us life will continue

Though we carry this ugly burden of a memory

Forever more

Peace

Is our solitary hope

Mr. Speaker, I commend Ariel Mason for so bravely and honestly writing this poem. As we begin to comprehend the extent to which the terrorist attacks of September 11th have affected us personally, we should look to expressions of emotion like Ariel's to help work through our own pain and confusion, and to remind us that in the face of adversity we as a country will persevere through this national tragedy.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of honor that I rise to celebrate Black History Month. As we honor the great culture and historic legacy that African-Americans have left to us and to future generations, I would like to recognize the oldest African-American church in Gary, Indiana—First Baptist. On Sunday, February 24, 2002, I will have the privilege and the honor to attend the worship service at First Baptist to show my respect for the spiritual foundation on which First Baptist was founded.

It was during the Industrial Revolution when smokestacks dotted the skies along the south-

ern coast of Lake Michigan that thousands of immigrants looking for a better life and a steady income migrated to Northwest Indiana. Many who came to Northwest Indiana, particularly Gary, were from the South. Several of the migrants who came to Gary brought with them deeply embedded religious beliefs, including a yearning for their own place of worship. This unwavering spiritual foundation led in 1908 to the creation of Gary's first African-American church, First Baptist.

In its earliest days, the first services were held in the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Rankins, in Gary, yet baptisms were performed in Chicago. The need to establish a single spiritual home for its growing family of parishioners inspired the decision to purchase a vacant lot on Washington Street in downtown Gary.

In 1917, the church moved to 2101 Washington Street and began to expand its house of worship. The expansion project was completed in 1925. A year later First Baptist church achieved a milestone; they became the first African-American church in Gary to install a pipe organ. Through most of this period of unprecedented foundation and growth, Rev. Hawkins led and guided this congregation. In June of 1944, after 31 years of service, Rev. Hawkins delivered his last sermon, for his health was deteriorating. He died four years later. His successor, Reverend L.V. Booth, took over in July of the same year.

Under Rev. Booth's devout leadership, the number of parishioners continued to grow and the church began its second major expansion project: ten new lots were purchased along 21st Avenue near Harrison Street in 1949. In 1952, during the growth phase, Rev. Booth resigned after eight years of service. However, December of the same year brought forth a dedicated new pastor, Rev. Penn. During his 21-year tenure with First Baptist, he completed the second phase of the building expansion and held a groundbreaking ceremony on May 2, 1954 on 21st Avenue, with Rev. William Jernigan, president of the National Baptist Sunday School, in attendance.

In September of 1955, the parishioners marched from the building at 2101 Washington Street to their new house of worship and current location, 626 West 21st Avenue. In its new home, First Baptist entered an era of renewed community involvement. Under Rev. Penn's guidance, the number of worshippers grew from 1,200 members in 1955 to more than 1,900 in 1972.

In 1973, Rev. Penn resigned and gave his farewell sermon. Since that time, First Baptist has succeeded in its efforts to provide spiritual guidance for the Gary community under the direction of a number of religious leaders, including: Dr. Colvin Blanford; Rev. William Booth; the Rev. Allen Smith; and its current pastor, Rev. Bennie Henson, Sr.

A congregation founded in 1908 to meet the spiritual needs of the African-American community survives today as the city's oldest African-American church. In June of this year, First Baptist will celebrate its 94th anniversary. This is a testament to the positive will, dedication and fortitude of its past and present parishioners.

Mr. Speaker, as we remember the great cultural and historic legacy of African-American heritage during this month, I ask that you and my other colleagues join me in commending the parishioners at First Baptist and all other outstanding African-American leaders for their

efforts to build a better society for our country and the citizens of Northwest Indiana.

TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, the financial rewards from international trade are enormous. I know this firsthand because my Congressional district is part of the largest exporting region in our country. Trade provides enormous benefits to our economy so it is appropriate for us to dedicate a small fraction of these rewards to workers who are displaced because of trade.

Forty years ago Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) was created for U.S. workers who lost their jobs because of foreign competition. The program has suffered from a number of significant problems including inadequate funding for training, lack of health care coverage, and the existence of a separate program under NAFTA which has created confusion and inconsistencies in the program. TAA also does not currently cover farmers, suppliers, and downstream producers who face similar pressure from international competition.

Representative KEN BENTSEN and I have introduced the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act, H.R. 3670 to remedy these and other problems with the program. The bill harmonizes NAFTA-TAA and TAA, broadens eligibility for downstream producers, suppliers, farmers, fishermen, truckers, and taconite producers, expands income support from 52 weeks to 78 weeks and increases funding for training and TAA for firms. For the first time a healthcare benefit for displaced workers is provided and the bill establishes an Office of Community Assistance to provide technical assistance to trade impacted communities.

It is critical that we bring Trade Adjustment Assistance policies into the 21st century so that our policies actually meet the needs of our workforce. H.R. 3670 does exactly this. It reforms a 40-year-old program by embracing its original intent and combines it with the needs of a 21st century world and workforce.

ARABS AND AMERICA: EDUCATION IS THE KEY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is well known that the Middle East is a land of proud heritage and strong traditions, but recent world events have focused the world's attention on the region, casting shadows of doubt and fear. These concerns are not unfounded and they are the result of several factors. In an opinion article entitled "Arabs and America: Education is the Key," published in the Washington Post on February 12, the eminent Middle East historian Roy Mottahedeh of Harvard University discusses one of the most important causes of this problem.

Dr. Mottahedeh focuses on one of the greatest tragedies of today's Middle East, the de-

cline of liberal education. He begins his piece with a heart-breaking but telling image: boxes of catalogue cards negligently scattered on the floors of the library of Cairo University. This, by the way, is the same university that produced the Nobel Prize winning novelist Naguib Mahfouz and so many other eminent Egyptian intellectuals. He makes the provocative point that it is in our interest to do all in our power to support liberal education in Egypt and the wider Middle East. Rather than try to educate an English speaking elite here in the U.S., we need to help build a culturally acceptable educational system of liberal values over there.

The decline of liberal education in the Middle East, particularly in the Arab world's cultural and intellectual center, Egypt, is a tragic fact. I am reminded of Dr. Fouad Ajami's article a few years ago, where he pointed out, shockingly, that Egypt produces merely 375 new books per year, whereas Israel, with less than one-tenth population, produces 4,000. Indeed, the sad state of education is one of the primary reasons for the poverty and political backwardness of our key Arab ally and, indirectly, for an environment that produces, and exports, violence and extremism.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to read Roy Mottahedeh's excellent and thought provoking article, and I ask that the text be placed in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, Tuesday, February 12, 2002]

ARABS AND AMERICA: EDUCATION IS THE KEY (By Roy Mottahedeh)

Anyone who has seen the card catalogue of Cairo University Library will understand how tragically far Egypt and many poorer Muslim nations are from achieving the goal that President Bush rightly said in his State of the Union address is the object of parents "in all societies"—namely, "to have their children educated." The boxes of catalogue cards scattered on the floor are emblematic of the way that poverty has caused higher education to unravel in the once proud universities in most parts of the Muslim world. Americans can and should do something about it. There is a real longing—both on the American and the Muslim side—for dialogue; and education is the obvious prerequisite for dialogue. It was President Mohammad Khatami of Iran who first called for a "dialogue of civilizations," which the United Nations adopted as a theme for the last year.

Americans have long been committed to education in the Muslim world. The venerable American Universities of Beirut and Cairo, as well as our outstanding Fulbright programs, have produced scholars who have had the personal depth of experience to interpret cultures to each other.

But the results have been on a small scale. Now is the time to have the vision to create a plan that will, through education, create the conditions for true and extensive dialogue and also create the human capital that is essential for poorer Muslim societies such as Egypt's to advance.

It is a solid but minor contribution to the dialogue of cultures if an American historian teaches for a year in Egypt or an Egyptian mathematician comes to MIT for two years and completes an advanced degree. But it would be a major contribution to such dialogue if well-funded liberal arts institutions teaching in Arabic in Cairo offered BA's to a significant number of college-age students. For good liberal arts education in the vernacular—Urdu, Tajik, Arabic or whatever—is far too rare in the poorer countries of the Muslim world.

No one wants to "Americanize" others through education, but all of us want to see

more educated populations whose education does not isolate them into an elite associated with knowledge of a European language. The unfortunate association of many of the educated elite with foreign language education only widens the gulf between them and their fellow countrymen and makes them seem unnecessarily "alien."

The graduates of such an expanded liberal arts education system would be forces for economic development not only because of their skills but also because of their ability to speak authentically within their cultures as native voices, impossible to label "agents" of an outside culture. The Egyptian Nobel prize laureate novelist Naguib Mahfouz was a graduate of Cairo University at a time when it was such an institution. And he was a man of the people, not raised speaking English, and therefore would probably never have won a place at an expensive English-speaking university.

Why favor undergraduate education when the needs in these societies are so great? Because the enormous bulge of populations under 21 in these countries are hungry for education and understanding, and they are the future interpreters of their cultures.

Why favor education in the vernacular? Because it will reach the underprivileged, will create the textbooks and even the language of discourse, and will allow a discourse that draws on the indigenous cultures of these countries, some of which, such as Egypt, can claim a tradition of a thousand years of higher education in their languages.

Why a "liberal" education? Because the tradition that a "liberal" education teaches us to think critically and write intelligently about both the human and scientific spheres is a value that the Muslim and Western cultures have shared for more than a thousand years.

As President Bush also said in his speech: "Let skeptics look to Islam's own rich history, with its centuries of learning and tolerance and progress."

Cairo was once the place where Maimonides, the Jewish philosopher, studied the ideas of Avicenna the Muslim philosopher and read Aristotle as translated into Arabic by, among others, Christian Arab philosophers. But its ancient madrassas and European-style institutions of learning have fallen on very hard times (not to mention the miserable neo-orthodox madrassas springing up everywhere in the Muslim world). A new Fulbright plan that would rescue them or establish parallel institutions in Cairo, Karachi and kindred places would create forums where the dialogue of civilization would truly flourish.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. LOLA GIBBS, EDUCATOR, COMMUNITY LEADER, AND ROLE MODEL, ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, It is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a leader in the African-American community and Delaware at large for her 100th birthday on March 30, 2002—Mrs. Lola Gibbs, a life-long teacher, leader and role model. Lola Gibbs is an outstanding, dedicated and caring Delawarean with an abundance of accomplishments that speak so highly of what she has done in the first 100 years of her life. On behalf of myself, and the citizens of the First State, I would like to honor

this outstanding individual and extend to her our congratulations on the first 100 years, and continued success for the rest of her life.

Today, I recognize Lola Gibbs for her contributions to the State of Delaware and its citizens through 47 years of teaching, 55 years as a 4-H club leader and 100 years as a role model.

Family, friends and all Delawareans can now take a moment to truly appreciate the world of difference Lola Gibbs has brought to both the African-American community, and all of Delaware. Lola Gibbs began teaching in 1922, began her first 4-H club several years later and began her second 4-H club in the early 1940's. Mrs. Gibbs was appointed President of the Kent County Teachers Association in 1969 before taking on volunteer work in The Eastern Star, AARP The Woman's Auxiliary of the Smyrna Home for the Chronically Ill, and Star Hill Church.

Lola Gibbs has spent all of her life helping the community and all of Delaware. Mrs. Gibbs graduated from State College in 1922 before attending West Chester Normal. Mrs. Gibbs was then appointed to teach at Reeves Crossing School where she initiated a program that taught children music and allowed them to hold concerts in order to raise extra money for books. After her tenure at Reeves Crossing, Mrs. Gibbs moved back to her hometown school, Woodside. On June 9th, 1931 Mrs. Gibbs, né Bowers, married Edward Gibbs.

Mr. Speaker, in the past, with the help of her husband, and today with the help of her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, Lola Gibbs and her family proudly and unselfishly contribute every day to the lives of Delawareans.

Mrs. Lola Gibbs' contributions cannot be commended enough. As she reaches 100 years of life, we can be sure that her contributions will not end. Her commitment to educating children and making life better for all Delawareans has earned her a permanent place in Delaware's history.

TRIBUTE TO CALIFORNIA STATE
SENATOR JOHN BURTON

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend and former colleague in the California State Senate, Senator John Burton. Senator Burton is being "roasted" this weekend at the California Democratic Party's convention in Los Angeles, California.

Born December 15, 1932, Senator Burton attended San Francisco State College and USF Law School. Senator Burton was elected president pro tem in February of 1998. He was elected to the State Senate in 1996 and represents the 3rd Senatorial District of California which includes San Francisco, Marin County, and Southern Sonoma County. He has served in the State Assembly and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Under Burton's leadership, CalGrant college scholarships became guaranteed for students with financial need who maintain a 2.0 grade point average or higher. In the first state budget enacted after he became president pro tem,

Burton restored cost of living adjustments and increased benefits for the elderly, blind and disabled and for mothers and children on welfare. Burton recently ensured that mental health services and juvenile crime prevention programs received historic levels of support.

As a recent article in the Sacramento Bee stated, "Senate leader John Burton is the type who will buy blankets and drive around San Francisco handing them out to the homeless." He is a man with a kind heart, golden spirit and the kind of friend I am proud to have made while I was in the California legislature. I respect him for his passion to help the needy and for his tenacity to fight for the rights of people who do not have a strong voice in government decision-making.

His daughter Kimiko is the Public Defender for the city and county of San Francisco. He is also the proud grandfather to 16-month-old Juan Emilio Cruz.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Housing Assistance Act of 2002. This bill has broad bipartisan support with over 100 cosponsors. It authorizes \$50 million for transitional housing assistance for those escaping the terror of violence in their homes and in their lives. At this time when we are devoting extensive resources to ending terror around the world, let us not forget to address the terror of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking that plagues women's lives.

In October 2000, Congress passed the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act and re-authorized the Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA). As part of VAWA, Congress agreed to support \$25 million for transitional housing assistance. Though this amount would have served too few, the money was never even appropriated to this program.

The rates of violence against women are astounding. According to the Department of Justice, 960,000 women annually report having been abused by their husband or boyfriend. The actual number is significantly higher due to difficulties in reporting. According to estimates by the McAuley Institute, \$50 million in funding for transitional housing would provide assistance to at least 5,400 families. Though this is not enough, we must start somewhere.

Violence against women is an epidemic that affects not only women, but their children and families as well. Every year, thousands of women flee abusive situations with few financial resources and often nowhere to go. Lack of affordable housing and long waiting lists for assisted housing mean that many women and their children are forced to choose between abuse at home or life on the streets. Furthermore, shelters are frequently filled to capacity and must turn away battered women and their children. The connection between continued abuse and lack of available housing is overwhelming. A Ford Foundation study found that 50% of homeless women and children were fleeing abuse.

Furthermore, almost 50 percent of the women who receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families funds cite domestic violence as a factor in the need for assistance. The problem of high need is compounded by the lack of adequate emergency shelter options. The overall number of emergency shelter beds for homeless people is estimated to have decreased by an average of 3 percent in 1997 while requests for shelter increased on the average by 3 percent. Emergency shelters struggle to meet the increased need for services with about 32 percent of the requests for shelter by homeless families going unmet. In fact 88 percent of cities reported having to turn away homeless families from emergency shelters due to inadequate resources for services.

Transitional housing assistance will not only provide immediate safety to women and children but it will also help women gain control over their lives and get back on their feet. There are critical services available at transitional housing shelters such as counseling, job training, and child care that these women need to help them along the road to economic self-sufficiency.

It is now essential that we not only pass this legislation but also appropriate \$50 million for transitional housing assistance and provide this critically needed safety net for women seeking to escape abuse. We must be supportive of individuals who are escaping violence and seeking to better their lives. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation and work for its passage.

IN MEMORY OF DR. PHILIP ARNOLD NICHOLAS OF NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Dr. Philip Arnold Nicholas of Nashville, Tennessee, who departed this life on January 3, 2002, after an extensive career as a physician and an educator.

Beloved by all those who knew him, Dr. Nicholas was best known for his work at Meharry Medical College, where he established the gynecology department and as the founder of Planned Parenthood of Nashville.

He was born May 12, 1914 in Kingston, Jamaica, the son of Phillip Harrigan Nicholas, a civil engineer who worked on the Panama Canal, and Lillian Burke Nicholas, a caterer who ran her business from their home. Nicholas was an enthusiastic student with the dream of becoming a physician at a very young age after assisting a friend with an injury in elementary school. He received a Jesuit education at St. George's College in Kingston and later studied pharmacy at Spanish Town Hospital in St. Catherine Parish. He became a pharmacist for the Kingston Public Health Hospital, still fostering the dream of becoming a doctor.

He married Violet Richards in 1940; and in 1945, he came to the United States and entered Howard University earning his Bachelor's and Master's of Science degrees. In 1950, he began study at Meharry. For eight summers during college, graduate school and medical school, he worked 19-hour days in

order to provide for his family and earn his education. His hard work and dedication paid off, when he graduated from Meharry as a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society in 1954. His residency in Obstetrics was completed in 1957. Dr. Matthew Walker trained him in the surgical department at Meharry. In 1957, he accepted a post-graduate program in OB-GYN at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where as one of only two African Americans, his classmates chose him to serve as class president for the year long program.

As a respected physician, Dr. Nicholas returned to Meharry in 1958, and his tenure on Meharry's faculty ranged from 1959 to 1984 during which time he served as vice chairman of the OB-GYN surgery department for more than 23 years and as Dean of Admissions at the School of Medicine from 1967 to 1982.

Meharry honored him many times, eventually establishing two scholarships in his name. In 1984, he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award for Medicine from the National Alumni Association and in 1999, the Alumnus of the Year Award. The Meharry singers recognized him in 1985 for "giving dedicated service to improving the academic, cultural and social life of students at the college." A birthing room was named for him at Hubbard Hospital in 1989, and ten years later the OB/GYN learning center was named in his honor as well. An icon has been erected in his honor at the corner of 21st and Hermosa Avenues on the Meharry campus.

Throughout his career he represented Meharry on a number of committees and medical associations, including the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the American Association of Medical Colleges, the R. F. Boyd Medical Society, and the committee for special education within the Metropolitan Board of Education.

As founding member of the Planned Parenthood Association of Nashville, he served as the first treasurer and later as a member of the Board of Directors. Additionally, he was the first vice-president of Children and Family Services in Nashville.

Outside of outstanding educational and healthcare activities, Dr. Nicholas contributed to the community as a founding member of St. Anselm's Episcopal Church, serving on the Fisk-Meharry Community Advisory Council and as a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

He counted among his most rewarding contributions to the education of many family members and friends. He would often say, "I did not invest in stocks and bonds, I invested in people. The dividends have been grand!"

Left to cherish his precious memories are his devoted wife of sixty-one years, Violet May Nicholas; his loving daughters, Gertrude Nicholas Brooks of Morganfield, KY and Dr. Allison Nicholas Metz of San Francisco, CA; granddaughter, Dr. Marilyn Nicole Metz of Loma Linda, CA; grandsons Ernest Adalbert Brooks III of San Francisco, Philip A. Nicholas Brooks of Nashville, Leon Benjamin Metz 111, Lionel Nicholas Metz and Laurence Christopher Metz, all of San Francisco; nieces, Noreen Blanche Nicholas, Audrey Nicholas Caldwell (Van), Paula DeLeon (Hixford), Maxine Ebanks (Samuel), Carinen Nicholas and Grace Lewis; nephews, Dr. Phillip Boume (Vicky), Cecil Nicholas and Dr. Earl Nicholas (Wonza); sister-in-law, Vertibelle Lewis; dear

cousins, Mavis and Ferdie Madden; many grandnieces and nephews; several cousins; "sisters" Ruby Smith and Izetta Cooper; devoted friends, Dr. Alford and Dorothy Vassall, Drs. Myrtle and George Mason and family; Pearlina Gilpin Fletcher, Joy Vassall and daughter Camille; and a host of dear friends, relatives and colleagues.

Today we honor Dr. Nicholas' significant investment to Tennessee as a truly compassionate leader and friend. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

IN HONOR OF THE BAYONNE
MEDICAL CENTER

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the renaming of Bayonne Hospital to Bayonne Medical Center. The renaming will take place at a reception on Wednesday, February 13, 2002, in the Main Lobby of the Bayonne Medical Center.

Bayonne Medical Center's new name is a reflection of the facility's outstanding healthcare services that are provided to the community of Bayonne. What makes the Bayonne Medical Center so outstanding is its staffs commitment to the well-being of its patients, the citizens of Bayonne, as well as its wide array of cutting edge health care technology. The topnotch medical staff, nursing professionals, administrative staff, and volunteers offer patient-focused care, professional diagnostic and treatment options, and a wide range of clinical services.

For more than one hundred years, Bayonne Hospital has played an essential role in providing clinically advanced healthcare services for an ever growing and changing community. Over the past century, the medical professionals at Bayonne Hospital have not only shown their skill in adapting to great life-saving advancements in medical technology and health care services, but they have also demonstrated their commitment to our community by adapting their services to meet the needs of all of our community, regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, or income. I have no doubt that Bayonne Medical Center will continue to meet the additional challenges and advancements of the coming century, just as Bayonne Hospital has done for the past 100 years.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bayonne Medical Center for providing excellent care to the citizens of Bayonne, New Jersey. Thanks for a past, present, and future of quality health care for our community.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MEXI-
CAN AMERICAN ALUMNI ASSO-
CIATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Southern Cali-

fornia Mexican American Alumni Association (USC MAAA). Since its inception, USC MAAA has committed itself to the development of funds to provide tuition assistance grants to Latino students enrolled at the University of Southern California.

USC MAAA was founded by Raul Vargas and seven other alums, who approached the president of the university and set the parameters for the organization during the 1973-74 school year. The university offered to match the MAAA's undergraduate scholarship monies on a two to one basis, and the USC Graduate School offered to match the graduate student fellowships on a one to one basis.

USC MAAA has provided educational grants to over 5,200 USC Latino students amounting to over \$8.9 million dollars. As such, USC MAAA has played a critical role in helping students attain degrees in various fields such as medicine, law, media, business, humanities, science, and social sciences.

The success of USC MAAA can be largely accredited to the leadership provided by its Executive Director, Raul Vargas. A USC alum himself, Raul Vargas recognizes the great financial obstacles that Latinos face in attaining their academic goals. Therefore, Raul Vargas has worked tirelessly to garner support for USC MAAA from prominent members of the community, so that Latino students can make their educational and career dreams a reality.

This year, USC MAAA celebrates its 27th Annual Fundraising Dinner. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the work of USC MAAA.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM
B. MOGE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise before the House today. On January 18, 2002, Western Massachusetts lost one of its most cherished and influential citizens. Mr. William B. Moge of West Springfield passed away at the age of 93.

Bill Moge was one of a kind. A graduate of Springfield Technical High, he began a coaching career in the late 1930s which lasted until his retirement in 1984. His accomplishments in football, baseball and basketball earned him recognition by the Massachusetts High School Coaches Hall of Fame in all three sports. After his last football game, in 1983, the field at Szot Park in Chicopee, Massachusetts was named after him. His alma mater, Providence College, inducted him into its Hall of Fame in 1984.

However, Bill Moge was far more than a coach. He was a guidance counselor at Chicopee High School. He was a motivator and a disciplinarian. As a result of his teaching, his players have excelled in all walks of life, from professional sports to politics. If you talked with his players today, they wouldn't mention xs and os or game strategies. They would tell you that Coach Moge instilled confidence in each and every one of them. He taught his players how to succeed in life, not just sports. His legacy will live on forever in the players who became coaches and who have passed on his lessons to their own players.

The importance of people like Bill Moge cannot be overstated. He left a positive and indelible mark on Chicopee High School, its students and its athletes. The Western Massachusetts community will sorely miss him.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to extend my sympathy to the family of Bill Moge, his six children, ten grandchildren and one great grandchild.

HONORING THE SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT LATINO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues of an important constituency in the Second Congressional District of North Carolina: the growing Latino population.

Three years ago, I formed the Second Congressional District Latino Advisory Committee to reach out to North Carolina's Latino community and provide responsive representation to the needs and concerns of this rapidly expanding community. North Carolina has undergone tremendous demographic changes over the past decade, and the Latino population is the fastest growing group in our state. During my service in the U.S. House, I have worked hard to serve the needs and represent the interests of all the people of the Second District. I established this committee to reach out to some of our newest residents, to open up lines of communication, and forge strong bonds among all groups of people.

Mr. Speaker, the Latino Advisory Committee, small upon its inception, has grown to over 70 members today. Among those who have joined the Committee are the Honorable Carolina Zaragoza-Flores, the Consulate General of the Mexican Consulate in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Ms. Maribell Diaz, the Executive Director of the Hispanic Task Force of Lee County, North Carolina. I am pleased that the members of the Hispanic Advisory Committee represent a crosssection of our state's diverse Latino population.

I rely on their insight and knowledge to advise me on issues important to their community. For instance, during our last meeting held on August 23, 2001, members of the Second Congressional District Latino Advisory Committee raised a number of diverse concerns. Mr. Speaker, prior to the terrorist attacks of September 11, immigration and amnesty proposals were hot topics in Washington, and the Bush Administration was contemplating major changes in U.S. immigration policy. Latino Advisory Committee members expressed concerns that any immigration and amnesty proposal should address a number of key points: family reunification, earned access to legalization, border safety and protection, an enhanced temporary worker program, and fairness for immigrants and legal residents. However, as we all know, the terrorist attacks put immigration liberalization proposals on the backburner. It is my hope that the Congress will not forget the plight of America's immigrant families, who still need our help.

Latino Advisory Committee members also raised concerns about extension of the Sec-

tion 245(i) Visa Program. Mr. Speaker, the Section 245(i) Visa Program allows illegal immigrants to apply for permanent residency while remaining in the country. Our members expressed serious concerns that the expiration of the Section 245(i) Visa Program would unnecessarily rip immigrant families apart. I believe that Congress must answer the call for fairness and justice in our immigration laws and extend the Section 245(i) Visa Program. Immigration has played a critical role in America's history, and immigrants have been essential to the development of our economy and our society. I was disappointed that conferees to the Fiscal Year 2002 Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations bill elected to omit a Senate provision that would have permanently extended this worthy program. It is my sincere hope that Congress will extend the Section 245(i) Visa Program soon.

Mr. Speaker, the next meeting of the Second Congressional District Latino Advisory Committee will be held on February 20. I look forward to another lively discussion with our members about ways in which I can better serve them in the U.S. House. I extend my sincere gratitude to each member of the Latino Advisory Committee for their participation in this group. The most important job I have as a Congressman is to be the voice of the people. In the Second District we have many different voices and more than one language, and contributions of our Latino Community help bring us all together as one unifying chorus. I encourage each of my colleagues to consider establishing similar committees in their own districts.

HONORING MS. ELIZABETH BROWN CALLETON

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Elizabeth Brown Calleton for her forty years of contributions to women's health care and family planning in the San Gabriel Valley community.

Ms. Elizabeth Brown Calleton graduated from Smith College in 1956 with a Bachelors degree in government. She continued her education and received a Masters degree in 1962 from Columbia University in Public Law and Government. A decade later, Ms. Calleton began her professional career as an Administrative Assistant in Planned Parenthood in Pasadena, California and in 1974 she became Associate Director. She has been the Executive Director since 1979.

In addition to her commitment to Planned Parenthood, Ms. Brown Calleton was past President of League of Women Voters of the Pasadena area chapter and has served on the board of Young and Healthy, Women At Work, and Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California.

Her contributions have been recognized by many including the Women of Achievement, Magna Carta Business and Professional Women, and the Pasadena-Foothill YWCA.

Although Ms. Calleton worked hard to make significant inroads on the area of women's health care, she was also able to be a great mother and grandmother to her three children and her four grandchildren.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable woman for her contributions in the area of women's health care to the San Gabriel Valley community.

LET'S FIND A CURE FOR SCLERODERMA

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 7, I introduced H. Con. Res. 320, a bill to help the more than 300,000 Americans who suffer from Scleroderma. Scleroderma is a chronic, often progressive autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system attacks its own tissues.

The disease manifests itself in two forms: localized Scleroderma, effecting the skin and underlying tissue, and systemic Scleroderma, also known as systemic sclerosis, a potentially life-threatening disease that attacks internal organs including the lungs, heart, kidneys, esophagus and gastrointestinal tract.

Scleroderma can vary a great deal in terms of severity. While for a few individuals it is merely a nuisance, for many it is a life-threatening illness. For most, it is a disease that affects how they live their daily lives.

The wide range of symptoms and localized and systemic variations of the disease make it especially hard to diagnose. The average diagnosis is made 5 years after the onset of symptoms. Once diagnosed, however, people with Scleroderma can only look forward to symptomatic relief, as there is no known cure.

Symptoms may include swelling, hardening and thickening of the skin, blood vessel spasms with severe discomfort in the fingers and toes, weight loss, joint pain, swallowing difficulties, nonhealing ulcerations on the fingertips and extreme fatigue. In its more advanced forms, Scleroderma can prevent patients from performing even the simplest tasks.

Among the goals of my legislation is to help adequately fund research projects regarding Scleroderma; hold a Scleroderma symposium that would bring together distinguished scientists and clinicians from across the United States to determine the most important priorities in Scleroderma research and to establish a national epidemiological study to better track the incidence of this disease.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in bringing awareness and find a cure to this devastating disease.

HONORING SENATOR MITCH McCONNELL ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ERNIE FLETCHER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in the well of the United States House of Representatives to wish a Happy 60th Birthday to a statesman and one of my esteemed colleagues in the United States Senate. During his first 60 years, Senator MITCH McCONNELL has influenced thousands of people, in both Kentucky and throughout the United States.

Born on February 20, 1942, Senator MCCONNELL demonstrated his leadership and political skills at an early age. He was elected student body president of his high school, student body president of the University of Louisville College of Arts and Sciences, and president of the Student Bar Association at the University of Kentucky College of Law. After graduating from law school, Senator MCCONNELL quickly ascended Washington politics as an intern for U.S. Senator John Sherman Cooper, chief legislative assistant to U.S. Senator Marlow Cook, and deputy assistant general under President Gerald R. Ford.

After serving in Washington, Senator MCCONNELL returned home to Kentucky to help build the Republican Party he loves so much. He was elected as County Judge-Executive in Jefferson County in 1978 and to the United States Senate in 1984. He is the only Republican in Kentucky history to be elected to three full terms in that esteemed body.

Since arriving in the Senate, Senator MCCONNELL has achieved recognition as being one of Washington's most influential people. He is the Ranking Member of the Senate Rules Committee, the Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, a senior member of the Senate Agricultural Committee, and a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Senator MCCONNELL's committee assignments position him well to champion issues that matter to Kentuckians.

Perhaps one of the biggest honors of Senator MCCONNELL's political career came in January 2001. As the Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, he directed the planning and production of President George W. Bush's Inauguration as the 43rd President of the United States. Not only did he serve as emcee of the 2001 Inauguration Ceremony and escort President Bush throughout the day's historic events; he also helped coordinate the "Bluegrass" Inaugural Ball.

Along with the long list of accomplishments in his political and professional life, Senator MCCONNELL is a committed husband to his wife, Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao, and a loving father to his three daughters: Elly, Claire, and Porter.

On Senator MCCONNELL's 60th Birthday, I think it is important to thank him for the guiding light he provides to other folks in Kentucky. I speak personally and on behalf of a number of Republican candidates who have been inspired and helped by Senator MCCONNELL's leadership. He taught us that Republicans can win in Kentucky.

Mr. Speaker I would ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in wishing him a very happy birthday and continued service for Kentucky and America.

TRIBUTE TO WALLACE E. GOODE,
JR.

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Mr. Wallace E. Goode, Jr., who will be awarded the

Franklin H. Williams Award by the U.S. Peace Corps this month.

Most Americans visualize the Peace Corps as groups of student volunteers working in the "developing world." A far away world dogged by poverty and disadvantage, a place we only visit through somber images of undernourished children and devastated villages on television.

However, the developing world is not necessarily that remote. In fact, it may reside within our own borders. Wallace Goode fully understands this, as Executive Director of the Chicago Empowerment Zone and an individual with a solid record of serving and helping in areas that need it most. Mr. Goode has a crucial role in the revitalization effort, as he manages the push for community self-sustainability for distressed neighborhoods in Chicago.

The Peace Corps mission pinpoints "to help; to learn; to teach" as core duties.

Mr. Goode learned as a student at Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, IL, a grad student at the University of Vermont and as a doctoral candidate at Loyola University while studying Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

Early in his career of helping and giving, Mr. Goode served as Director of Rural Development in Central Africa, Community Development Field Officer in the Solomon Islands and Trainer for the U.S. Peace Corps.

Furthermore, he helped to teach others as a Dean at Allegheny College in Meadville, PA, Assistant Dean of Students at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, IL, and a Manager at International Orientation Resources (IOR) teaching fellow managers and executives how to approach business with other cultures and cross-cultural conflict resolution.

Today, he continues to advance the Peace Corps legacy of civic service by addressing Chicago's Empowerment Zone revitalization initiatives, of economic empowerment, affordable housing, public safety, cultural diversity, Health and Human Services, and Youth futures.

Each year, the Franklin H. Williams Award honors the outstanding leadership contributions that Peace Corps volunteers of color have made in the area of community service. And I can't think of a better, or more deserving recipient, and that is most likely how the Chicago Area Peace Corps Association felt when they nominated him.

Mr. Speaker, seldom do we get to sing the praises of individuals whose hard work and positive deeds improve the world. Thanks to the Peace Corps, Mr. Wallace Goode's inspiring example will not be unsung.

FARM BILL PAYMENT
LIMITATIONS A NECESSARY STEP

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the following editorial from the February 12, 2001, Omaha World-Herald. The editorial emphasizes the importance of reviewing the purpose of farm programs. It also expresses support for limiting farm payments, which would benefit family farmers and restore public confidence in farm programs.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Feb. 12, 2001]

WHY A FARM BILL? TO EVALUATE SUBSIDY
CAP, WE NEED TO REVISIT FUNDAMENTAL
QUESTIONS

A U.S. Senate amendment aimed at lowering the cap on farm subsidies to \$275,000 a year for the biggest farms is a move in the right direction, although it may not be the revolutionary step its backers have portrayed.

The new limit is designed for a worthy purpose. It would prevent huge corporate farms from receiving multimillion-dollar payments, thereby removing a factor that has tarnished the subsidy program in the eyes of many Americans.

This isn't a major issue in the Midlands, where most farms are family-operated and where federal payments are much more modest.

But in the South, where large corporate operations exist, the amendment is bitterly opposed. Currently the farm program has a theoretical limit of \$460,000. Corporate farmers with platoons of lawyers and accountants have found many options, including the breaking up of one operation into separate units, at least on paper. In effect, there is no limit. One Arkansas operation harvested \$49 million in federal funds from 1996 to 2000.

Some observers say that Southern opposition to the cap will be enough to sidetrack the farm bill.

If debate must be extended, it would be useful if some members of both houses of Congress addressed the underlying philosophy. America has had a subsidy program for so long that its purpose is sometimes forgotten. It originated in the 1930s as a way to help small and medium-sized farms survive a period of surplus-depressed prices. But in recent years it has morphed into a safety net for an ever-widening array of food and fiber producers, whether or not they were family farmers. In effect, it subsidizes surpluses, perpetuating a cycle of low returns and pressure for more subsidies.

Congress might start by putting up the fundamental questions for review: Why do we have a farm program? To help the little guys or the big guys? To encourage surplus production or discourage it? To ensure raw materials for processors? To protect all elements of the agricultural industry from the perils of weather and market? Is the farm bill corporate welfare or community stabilization?

Once the philosophy is established, perhaps a rational debate can take place. With or without it, the lower cap backed by Nebraska's delegation and others seems sound.

Nothing in this amendment reduces the overall cost of the farm bill, which in its present form would add about \$74 billion in spending over the next 10 years. But it does aim at keeping the program from being increasingly a form of income-protection for mega-farmers. In that context, the amendment deserves respect and the sponsors are right to give it a try.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MONE-
TARY FREEDOM AND ACCOUNT-
ABILITY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Monetary Freedom and Accountability Act. This simple bill takes a step toward restoring

Congress' constitutional authority over the monetary policy of the United States by requiring Congressional approval before the President or the Treasury Secretary buys or sells gold.

Federal dealings in the gold market have the potential to seriously disrupt the free market by either artificially inflating or deflating the price of gold. Given gold's importance to America's (and the world's) monetary system, any federal interference in the gold market will have ripple effects through the entire economy. For example, if the government were to intervene to artificially lower the price of gold, the result would be to hide the true effects of an inflationary policy until the damage was too severe to remain out of the public eye.

By artificially deflating the price of gold, federal actions in the gold market can reduce the values of private gold holdings, adversely affecting millions of investors. These investors rely on their gold holdings to protect them from the effects of our misguided fiat currency system. Federal dealings in gold can also adversely affect those countries with large gold mines, many of which are currently ravished by extreme poverty. Mr. Speaker, restoring a vibrant gold market could do more than any foreign aid program to restore economic growth to these areas.

While the Treasury denies it is dealing in gold, the Gold Anti-Trust Action Committee (GATA) has uncovered evidence suggesting that the Federal Reserve and the Treasury, operating through the Exchange-Stabilization Fund and in cooperation with major banks and the International Monetary Fund, have been interfering in the gold market with the goal of lowering the price of gold. The purpose of this policy has been to disguise the true effects of the monetary bubble responsible for the artificial prosperity of the 1990s and to protect the politically-powerful banks who are heavily invested in gold derivatives. GATA believes federal actions to drive down the price of gold help protect the profits of these banks at the expense of investors, consumers, and taxpayers around the world.

GATA has also produced evidence that American officials are involved in gold transactions. Alan Greenspan himself referred to the federal government's power to manipulate the price of gold at a hearing before the House Banking Committee and the Senate Agricultural Committee in July, 1998: "Nor can private counterparties restrict supplies of gold, another commodity whose derivatives are often traded over-the-counter, where *central banks stand ready to lease gold in increasing quantities should the price rise.*" [Emphasis added].

Mr. Speaker, in order to allow my colleagues to learn more about this issue, I am enclosing "All that Glitters is Not Gold" by Kelly Patricia O'Meara, an investigative reporter from Insight magazine. This article explains in detail GATA's allegations of Federal involvement in the gold market.

Mr. Speaker, while I certainly share GATA's concerns over the effects of federal dealings in the gold market, my bill in no way interferes with the ability of the federal government to buy or sell gold. It simply requires that before the executive branch engages in such transactions, Congress has the chance to review it, debate it, and approve it.

Given the tremendous effects on the American economy from the federal dealings in the

gold market, it certainly is reasonable that the people's representatives have a role in approving these transactions, especially since Congress has an all-too-neglected Constitutional role in overseeing monetary policy. Therefore, I urge all my colleagues to stand up for sound economics, open government and Congress' constitutional role in monetary policy by cosponsoring the Monetary Freedom and Accountability Act.

[Insight Magazine, March 4, 2002]

ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD

(By Kelly Patricia O'Meara)

Even though Enron employees and the company's accounting firm, Arthur Andersen, have destroyed mountains of documents, enough information remains in the ruins of the nation's largest corporate bankruptcy to provide a clear picture of what happened to wreck what once was the seventh-largest U.S. corporation.

Obfuscation, secrecy, and accounting tricks appear to have catapulted the Houston-based trader of oil and gas to the top of the Fortune 100, only to be brought down by the same corporate chicanery. Meanwhile, Wall Street analysts and the federal government's top bean counters struggle to convince the nation that the Enron crash is an isolated case, not in the least reflective of how business is done in corporate America.

But there are many in the world of high finance who aren't buying the official line and warn that Enron is just the first to fall from a shaky house of cards.

Many analysts believe that this problem is nowhere more evident than at the nation's bullion banks, and particularly at the House of Morgan (J.P. Morgan Chase). One of the world's leading banking institutions and a major international bullion bank, Morgan Chase has received heavy media attention in recent weeks both for its financial relationships with bankrupts Enron and Global Crossing Ltd. as well as the financial collapse of Argentina.

It is no secret that Morgan Chase was one of Enron's biggest lenders, reportedly losing at least \$600 million and, perhaps, billions. The banking giant's stock has gone south, and management has been called before its shareholders to explain substantial investments in highly speculative derivatives—hidden speculation of the sort that overheated and blew up on Enron.

In recent years Morgan Chase has invested much of its capital in derivatives, including gold and interest-rate derivatives, about which very little information is provided to shareholders. Among the information that has been made available, however, is that as of June 2000, J.P. Morgan reported nearly \$30 billion of gold derivatives and Chase Manhattan Corp., although merged with J.P. Morgan, still reported separately in 2000 that it had \$35 billion in gold derivatives. Analysts agree that the derivatives have exploded at this bank and that both positions are enormous relative to the capital of the bank and the size of the gold market.

It gets worse. J.P. Morgan's total derivatives position reportedly now stands at nearly \$29 trillion, or three times the U.S. annual gross domestic product. Wall Street insiders speculate that if the gold market were to rise, Morgan Chase could be in serious financial difficulty because of its "short positions" in gold. In other words, if the price of gold were to increase substantially, Morgan Chase and other bullion banks that are highly leveraged in gold would have trouble covering their liabilities. One financial analyst, who asked not to be identified, explained the situation this way: "Gold is borrowed by Morgan Chase from the Bank of England at

1 percent interest and then Morgan Chase sells the gold on the open market, then reinvests the proceeds into interest-bearing vehicles at maybe 6 percent.

At some point, though, Morgan Chase must return the borrowed gold to the Bank of England, and if the price of gold were significantly to increase during any point in this process, it would make it prohibitive and potentially ruinous to repay the gold."

Bill Murphy, chairman of the Gold Anti-Trust Action Committee, a nonprofit organization that researches and studies what he calls the "gold cartel" (J.P. Morgan Chase, Deutsche Bank, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the U.S. Treasury, and the Federal Reserve), and owner of www.LeMetropoleCafe.com, tells Insight that "Morgan Chase and other bullion banks are another Enron waiting to happen." Murphy says, "Enron occurred because the nature of their business was obscured, there was no oversight and someone was cooking the books. Enron was deceiving everyone about their business operations—and the same thing is happening with the gold and bullion banks."

According to Murphy, "The price of gold always has been a barometer used by many to determine the financial health of the United States. A steady gold price usually is associated by the public and economic analysts as an indication or a reflection of the stability of the financial system. Steady gold; steady dollar. Enron structured a financial system that put the company at risk and eventually took it down. The same structure now exists at Morgan Chase with their own interest-rate/gold-derivatives position. There is very little information available about its position in the gold market and, as with the case of Enron, it could easily bring them down."

In December 2000, attorney Reginald H. Howe, a private investor and proprietor of the Website www.goldensexant.com, which reports on gold, filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court in Boston. Named as defendants were J.P. Morgan & Co., Chase Manhattan Corp., Citigroup Inc., Goldman Sachs Group Inc., Deutsche Bank, Lawrence Summers (former secretary of the Treasury), William McDonough (president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York), Alan Greenspan (chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System), and the BIS.

Howe's claim contends that the price of gold has been manipulated since 1994 "by conspiracy of public officials and major bullion banks, with three objectives: 1) to prevent rising gold prices from sounding a warning on U.S. inflation; 2) to prevent rising gold prices from signaling weakness in the international value of the dollar; and 3) to prevent banks and others who have funded themselves through borrowing gold at low interest rates and are thus short physical gold from suffering huge losses as a consequence of rising gold prices."

While all the defendants flatly deny participation in such a scheme, Howe's case is being heard. Howe tells Insight he has provided the court with very compelling evidence to support his claim, including sworn testimony by Greenspan before the House Banking Committee in July 1998. Greenspan assured the committee, "Nor can private counterparties restrict supply of gold, another commodity whose derivatives are often traded over the counter, where central banks stand ready to lease gold in increasing quantities should the price rise." Howe and other "gold bugs" cite this as a virtual public announcement "that the price of gold had been and would continue to be controlled if necessary."

According to Howe, "There is a great deal of evidence, but this is a very complicated

issue. The key, though, is the short position of the banks and their gold derivatives. The central banks have 'leased' gold for low returns to the bullion banks for the purpose of keeping the price of gold low. Greenspan's remarks in 1998 explain how the price of gold has been suppressed at times when it looked like the price of gold was increasing."

Furthermore, Howe's complaint also cites remarks made privately by Edward George, governor of the Bank of England and a director of the BIS, to Nicholas J. Morrell, chief executive of Lonmin Plc: "We looked into the abyss if the gold price rose further. A further rise would have taken down one or several trading houses, which might have taken down all the rest in their wake. Therefore, at any price, at any cost, the central banks had to quell the gold price, manage it. It was very difficult to get the gold price under control, but we have now succeeded. The U.S. Fed was very active in getting the gold price down. So was the U.K. [United Kingdom]."

Whether the Fed and others in the alleged "gold cartel" have conspired to suppress the price of gold may, in the end, be secondary to the growing need for financial transparency. Wall Street insiders agree that as long as regulators, analysts, accountants, and politicians can be lobbied and "corrupted" to permit special privileges, there will be more Enron-size failures.

Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Harvey L. Pitt, well aware of the seriousness of these problems, recently testified before the House Financial Services Committee that "it is my hope there are not other Enrons out there, but I'm not willing to rely on hope."

Robert Maltbie, chief executive officer of www.stockjock.com and an independent analyst, long has followed Morgan Chase. He tells Insight that "there are a lot of things going on in these companies, but we don't know for sure because much of what they're doing is off the balance sheet. The market is scared and crying out to see what's under the hood. Like Enron, much of what the banks are doing is off the balance sheet, and it's a time bomb ticking as we speak."

Just what would happen if a bank the size of Morgan Chase were unable to meet its financial obligations? "It's tough to go there," Maltbie says, "because it could shake the financial markets to the core."

TRIBUTE TO DON I. FOLTZ

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise today and recognize Don I. Foltz, a proud citizen, honorable man, longtime public servant, and friend and trusted advisor. Don has dedicated his professional years to the service of countless California elected officials and communities and I am happy to honor his accomplishments today.

Don was born in Glendale, California but has spent most of his years in Long Beach, California, where he continues to reside today. He was the loving husband of Mary Lou—his lifetime personal and professional partner. He is also the proud father of two sons, David Foltz and Steven Foltz, and grandfather to Parker C. Foltz, the apple of his grandpa's eye.

Don began his long tenure in public service in 1959 as an Administrative Assistant to California State Senator Richard Richards and served in the same capacity with Assembly Member and then State Senator Joseph M. Kennick, Assembly Member Bruce Young and State Senator Paul Carpenter. He has also served as a Consultant to the Assembly Committee on Oil, Mining, and Manufacturing, as a Deputy to Board of Equalization Member Paul Carpenter, and as an advisor in a volunteer capacity to Assembly Member Bob Epple.

Don's extensive experience in press and media relations, speech writing, and researching and drafting legislation serve him well as today he works as a political advisor to many candidates and office holders throughout Los Angeles County. I have counted on Don as an advisor and trusted confidant throughout my first year in office and I thank him for offering his vast knowledge of experience to me.

So it is with great pleasure that I ask all Members to join me in thanking Mr. Don I. Foltz for his contributions to our American political system and his many years of service to the people of California and our Nation.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM JEFFERSON JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of William Jefferson Jr. in recognition of his 102nd Birthday.

William Jefferson Jr. was born in Columbia, South Carolina in 1900 to Carrie and William Jefferson Sr. He moved to New Jersey at age 13 and on to New York during his 20th year. On March 10, 1937, William Jefferson Jr. married Maybell Stevens. Together they had five daughters: Willamae, Carrie, Louise, Maybell and Theresa.

William worked for 38 years for an interior decorating company and retired at the age of 67. Nevertheless, William has continued to help his family members to this day, redesigning their apartments and houses. While living at Linden Plaza in Brooklyn, New York, he started the Garden Club and was still working there until a few years ago.

Mr. Speaker, William Jefferson Jr. has lived to see 19 different presidents, from President William McKinley to President George Walker Bush—two world wars, and countless inventions that would have been thought unimaginable at the time of his birth. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this man who has experienced so much.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained earlier today during the rollcall vote #19 on H.R. 2356. I ask that

the RECORD reflect that had I been here, I would have voted "aye" on this rollcall vote.

RECOGNIZING LUCIAN ADAMS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and recognize an American hero, Lucian Adams, who risked his life for his country and went far beyond the call of duty. It is my honor to salute this valiant man in his heroic efforts and his exceptional community service in the 9th Congressional District of Texas.

On April 23, 1945, President Harry Truman awarded Mr. Lucian Adams with the Congressional Medal of Honor. Mr. Adams is the recipient of this prestigious award for his brave actions during World War II. He is also the recipient of a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. Mr. Adams served as a Staff Sergeant in the 30th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division, under the United States Army. On October 28, 1944, Sergeant Adams was responsible for saving the lives of his company near St. Die, France.

On that fateful day, Adams and his company were stopped by the enemy while trying to drive through the Mortagne Forest to reopen the supply line to the isolated 3rd Battalion. Sergeant Adams encountered the concentrated fire of machine guns in a lone attack on a force of the German troops. Despite intense machine gun fire which the enemy directed at him and rifle grenades which struck the trees over head engulfing him with twigs and branches, Sergeant Adams made his way to within 10 yards of the closest machine gun and killed the gunner with a hand grenade.

This and other actions allowed Sergeant Adams to personally kill nine soldiers, eliminate three enemy machine guns, dismantle a specialized force which was armed with heavy artillery, and clear the wood of hostile opponents. The course of actions that were taken by Sergeant Adams would seem to be a scene directly from a movie however, all of these courses took place in a time of unsettling war.

Throughout the years, Mr. Adams has exhibited an unyielding commitment to his community and city at large. In 1986, the city of Port Arthur changed the 61st Street to Staff Sgt. Lucian Adams at the request of the Port Arthur Mexican Heritage Society. For his efforts in reaching out to the youth of Port Arthur, a scholarship fund has been set up in his name.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Adams' life is rich with countless examples of self-sacrifice and extraordinary accomplishment in service to our great Nation. His contributions to Southeast Texas are immeasurable. He has dedicated his life to the United States Army and this country and I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Lucien Adams in serving our great nation for over 50 years.

Congratulations, Mr. Adams on a job well done. God bless you, and God bless America.

IN HONOR OF BLACK LEADERSHIP
AT KEYSpan

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of an outstanding organization that has been developed at KeySpan, Black Leadership at KeySpan, or BLAK, as it is known and their Chairperson, Renee McClure and Vice-chair, Ron Thompson and the entire BLAK organization, in recognition of their promotion of professional training, networking and community commitment.

In 2000, BLAK was created by KeySpan's Black employees with the support of Robert Catell—Chairman and CEO, Craig Mathews—Vice Chairman and COO, Colin Watson—Senior VP, Strategic Marketing and Elaine Weinstein, Senior VP of Human Resources, and senior management to establish an entity within the organization whose vision is: To be a resource for fostering leadership, excellence and community commitment among Black employees for the benefit of the corporation and its stakeholders.

In September of 2001, BLAK held its first "Executive Connection" day, providing BLAK members and the senior managers of KeySpan a forum to come together, exchange ideas, and establish relationships. BLAK recognizes that in order to be an effective organization it must develop communications throughout the corporation as a whole. As part of this effort, BLAK has taken part in one of KeySpan's monthly breakfast meetings to inform management about BLAK and has established an internal website and quarterly newsletter to keep its members informed.

BLAK has also established a number of committees to address the concerns of its members. One committee is the Community Involvement Committee (CIC). While a number of options were discussed reflecting the wide interests of its members, CIC felt that one of the most effective ways would be to become actively involved in two community high schools, and hopefully to expand their involvement with many other local schools in the future. BLAK's professional development initiatives include a resume bank, a coaching program, and a mentoring program. The variety of programs and services offered by BLAK illustrates a talented and eager membership. This membership also reflects the outstanding leadership of BLAK's Chair Renee McClure and Vice-chair Ronald Thompson. These two individuals along with the executive board, committees, advisors, and senior management continue to develop an outstanding organization that promotes growth, development and the community commitment that makes KeySpan such a tremendous asset to the community. As such, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable organization and its leaders.

HONORING THE PEOPLE OF SAN
GABRIEL

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of San Gabriel, California as they celebrate the 75th anniversary of their legendary and beautiful San Gabriel Civic Auditorium.

Throughout its rich history, the Auditorium has played host to hundreds of performances delighting audiences from the San Gabriel Valley and around the world. The Auditorium has also been admired for its beauty and historical character by hundreds of thousands of residents of nearby cities and visitors to Southern California. The San Gabriel Civic Auditorium was designed and built by John Steven McGroarty, from nearby Tujunga, and was dedicated on March 5, 1927. McGroarty went on to become the first poet laureate of California and a U.S. Congressman from 1935 to 1939 representing the region of Southern California that I am proud to serve. McGroarty built the theater specifically for his production, "Mission Play," which told the story of the founding of the California missions by the Franciscans under the leadership of Father Junipero Serra. McGroarty designed the façade of the theatre to look much like his favorite California mission, San Antonio de Padua in Monterey County. The "Mission Play" ran for five years and gave a total of 3,198 performances.

The theatre was closed in 1932 during the height of the Great Depression. But a group of concerned San Gabriel residents formed a citizens' committee with the goal of having the city purchase the theatre and reopen it. Thankfully, they were successful, and in 1945 the San Gabriel Civic Auditorium re-opened its doors again to the community. Since its re-opening, the theatre has seen a wealth of America's greatest performers. Notables such as Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Ginger Rogers, Raymond Burr, Jo Anne Worley, and even Bob Hope have graced its fine stage.

This year, the same stage will play host to a number of culturally diverse performances and festivities. The first of these performances will be the music of the Orchestra of the Californias. This newly formed orchestra is a product of bi-national cooperation. Formed by the Commission of the Californias, under the auspices of Governor Gray Davis of California, Governor Leonel Cota-Montaño of Baja California Sur, and Governor Eugenio Elorduy-Walther of Baja California, the Orchestra of the Californias has become the headline performer of a musical tour throughout California and Mexico. This is the first time that the governors of the three Californias have joined to present such a significant cultural achievement. On February 15, 2002, the San Gabriel Civic Auditorium will be the only theatre in Los Angeles County to welcome the Orchestra of the Californias. Under the direction of maestro David Atherton, the orchestra will play an assortment of classical favorites for what I am sure will be an appreciative audience.

I ask all Members of Congress to join Congresswoman HILDA SOLIS and me in congratulating the people of San Gabriel as they celebrate the 75th year of their beautiful San Gabriel Civic Auditorium.

IN HONOR OF SISTER IRENE
SMITH STRICKLAND

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Sister Irene Smith Strickland in recognition of her one-hundredth birthday.

Irene was the first of eleven children born on February 9, 1902 in Hampton, South Carolina to Margaret and John Smith. She moved to New York City in 1927 and joined the Corner Stone Baptist Church, where she served as an Usher.

Sister Strickland was married to the late Troy Strickland who passed away in June 1988. She and Troy had one son who passed away in June of 1993. She also has one daughter in law, four grandsons, two grand daughters, and six great grandchildren.

In November of 1939 she joined Zion Baptist Church where she also served as an Usher. She also worked on the nurses unit as a personal nurse to the late Rev. B.J. Lowery.

In June of 1939, Irene was initiated into Omega Chapter #48 Order of Eastern Stars serving in all capacities. She is, a member of the 2nd Masonic District and will be celebrating her birthday on February 17 at the Ridged Masonic Temple.

Mr. Speaker, Sister Irene Smith Strickland has lived through more than most of us will ever know. It is my pleasure to join in the celebration of her one-hundredth birthday, a milestone that many of us hope to reach. As such she is more than worthy of receiving this recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PASTOR
AND MRS. W.C. SCALES, SR. ON
THEIR 68TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating a wonderful couple who have reached a magnificent milestone in their lives, Pastor and Mrs. W.C. Scales, Sr., who will celebrate their 68th wedding anniversary on March 7, 2002.

William C. Scales, Sr. and Myra E. Scales were united in holy matrimony on March 7, 1934, in the beautiful city of Charleston, West Virginia. Throughout their marriage, Pastor and Mrs. Scales have maintained a strong partnership, working together in ministry and giving so generously of themselves to their church and their community. After becoming a successful businessman in West Virginia, Pastor Scales moved his family to Cleveland, Ohio where there were even greater employment opportunities. As a faithful Seventh-day Adventist, he refused to work on the Sabbath, but he was able to follow his trade with Sabbath privileges. Pastor Scales and his wife faithfully served the Cleveland, Ohio Glenville

Church in practically every capacity of leadership. In 1943, Pastor Scales entered the organized work of the church as a literature evangelist in the Ohio Conference. He began conducting Bible study and was so successful that 17 of the 23 in attendance were baptized. Pastor and Mrs. Scales had many accomplishments over the years. Mrs. Scales shared her musical gift as a soloist, and her personal evangelism skills as a part time Bible Instructor. She is a fantastic cook and has a special gift of encouraging and nurturing those to whom she ministers. From 1945 to 1950, Pastor Scales became Associate Publishing Director, Allegheny Conference; from 1950 to 1966, he was a Singing Evangelist and Bible Instructor in summer evangelism; in the early 1950s, he became Lay Pastor of Bethel S.D.A. Church in Cleveland, Ohio; in 1964, he became the first full time male Bible Instructor for Allegheny Conference; from 1965 to 1971, he began working with his son, Elder W.C. Scales, Jr., as part of the Allegheny Conference Evangelistic Team and coauthored the Real Truth Bible Courses; from 1971 to 1973, he received his ministerial license, and became Assistant Pastor of Baltimore Berea Temple Church; from 1974 to 1976, he served as pastor of Asbury Park, New Jersey District; in 1976, he ordained to the gospel ministry at the Allegheny East Camp Meeting; from 1976 to 1980, he served as pastor of Portsmouth, Virginia District; in 1978, he assisted his son in conducting the Georgetown, Guyana, Crusade; in 1980, he officially retired from organized work and Mrs. Scales retired as a part time Bible Instructor. Pastor and Mrs. Scales have remained active in retirement. Among other things, Pastor Scales has authored an autobiography entitled "Born to Win Souls," and coauthored with his son a book entitled "Practical Evangelism Sermons and Soul-winning Techniques," and conducts workshops and occasional preaching appointments.

A TRIBUTE TO THE FLINDERS
UNIVERSITY INTERNSHIP PRO-
GRAM

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to offer a tribute to Megan Wells and all the others who have contributed to the Flinders University Internship Program.

The effects of the terrorist attacks on September 11th have resonated in the hearts and minds of every American from Maine to California. Half-way around the world in Adelaide, the capital of South Australia, five of Australia's best and brightest young people were faced with a difficult decision. The question in Adelaide was simple enough. Would a group of five university students continue on with their plans to travel to Washington, DC to work in four congressional offices and a news organization as part of their American Studies degree? Fortunately for us all, the students answered with a resounding yes.

Three years ago, the Flinders University of Australia inaugurated a Washington, DC internship program for top students within its American Studies Department. Most of the interns work in congressional offices—making

this program unique certainly for Australian universities and quite possibly for any university system not based in the United States. The program is directed in Washington, DC on volunteer basis by former congressional staffer, Eric Federer.

Mr. Federer's work reflects the understanding that it is in our national interest for the future leaders of the world to understand how our Congress operates. This program is based on the idea of creating lasting bonds by "putting good people with good people in good places" for serious, intensive internships. And, as the Australians would say, to help bridge the "tyranny of distance."

Since the beginning of January, I've had the pleasure to host Megan, who is completing her degree in International Studies. She has exhibited an excellent comprehension of travel and tourism issues and has played an active role in maintaining a link between the United States and Australia. She boosted our morale long before she arrived simply by wanting to venture half-a-world away. I am extremely grateful to her parents, Kerry and Peter Haysman, who have been willing to share their daughter Megan with the people of the 17th District of California.

The Flinders University internship program hits upon a modest formula for successful international exchanges in large part due to the active support of both American and Australian governments. I have not been the only member so fortunate to have participated in this program. Toulas Skiladas of Broken Hill in New South Wales has worked in the office of Senator CHRISTOPHER DODD; Miranda Ramsay of Unley, South Australia has assisted Representative LOUISE SLAUGHTER and her staff; Rachel Mules of Penola, South Australia has joined my California colleague LORETTA SANCHEZ; and Patrick Armitage of North Adelaide has helped explain Washington, DC to the school-aged audiences of Channel One News.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank everyone involved in creating and shepherding this internship program from its initial concept to the thriving institution it has become. They have done this nation and the Australian people numerous proud acts of public service, which I hope will continue for many years to come.

IN HONOR OF W. ROGER
HAUGHTON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute W. Roger Haughton for his longstanding commitment to the San Francisco community. Roger is the Chairman and CEO of The PMI Group, Inc., ed in San Francisco. Roger was honored at the Bay Area's Junior Achievement Spirit of Achievement Gala, held on December 11, 2001, which was attended by over 500 executives of the Bay Area community. Roger was presented with the "Spirit of Achievement" Award, which recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional entrepreneurial success, leadership and commitment to their community. The honor symbolizes the "spirit of achievement" that Junior Achievement instills in thousands of Bay Area youth

each year through its economic education curriculum.

Roger Haughton and The PMI (Private Mortgage Insurance) Group, Inc. embody the community citizenship and spirit of philanthropy that Junior Achievement endeavors to instill in children across the Bay Area. PMI Group has also been an ardent supporter of the Bay Area community. Through its products and services, and working closely with mortgage lenders, PMI Group has developed many affordable mortgage programs to help families realize their dreams of home ownership. They believe that homeownership helps build strong families which helps build strong communities.

In addition to his role of Director, President and Chief Executive Officer of The PMI Group, Inc., Roger has a long history of active volunteerism with various affordable housing organizations including Habitat for Humanity, which has constructed affordable housing for families throughout the United States. Roger is also on the board as well as being former chairman of Social Compact, a Washington, D.C. organization dedicated to promoting revitalization of America's inner cities, and is also on the board of San Francisco's Bay Area Council.

I am proud to join my constituents in thanking and praising Roger Haughton for his dedication to the Bay Area community. Roger's dedication to the community through his involvement in nonprofit organizations makes him a worthy recipient of the Spirit of Achievement Award. Roger Haughton and PMI are pillars of the Bay Area community; they are servants of exemplary citizenship and spirited philanthropy. We are truly blessed for their generosity and commitment.

LEWIS AND CLARK AND GLOBAL
WARMING

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation and admiration for the students of Lewis and Clark College, which is in my district and is my alma mater. Frustrated with the leadership of this country, these forward-looking students have decided to take the matter of climate change into their hands.

In order to fight global warming, the students have voted to raise their annual student fees by \$10 per student per year. In fact, in a voter turnout that's twice what we see for special elections for local governments, 83.3 percent of the students voted yes. The fee increase will raise enough money to make Lewis and Clark College compliant with the Kyoto treaty through the purchase of "offsets" from the Climate Trust, a non-profit organization. The offset projects that the new fee would support include a web-based commuter matching system that will reduce car traffic in Portland, investments in landfill gas recovery system, and helping to preserve forests on Native American lands in the Northwest.

Studies at Lewis and Clark College have shown that increased parking fees, better transit, and a higher number of students living on campus have had a positive effect on the college's green house gas emissions. In this way,

the college is far ahead of the rest of the country in realizing what we need to do to reduce our contribution to global warming. The United States is the single largest generator of greenhouse gases, contributing one quarter of the global total.

Although the college's emissions are minimal, the students' actions are significant. Lewis and Clark is the first of what will be many colleges across the country developing a climate strategy. It is the collection of these individual actions that will make a difference and eventually shape our nation's policy. One can only hope that when President Bush presents the Administration's proposal on global warming tomorrow, it will include tough mandatory green house gas reductions.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM R. MILLS, JR. FOR A CAREER DEDICATED TO IMPROVING WATER CONDITIONS IN ORANGE COUNTY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to William R. Mills, Jr. upon his retirement after fifteen years with the Orange County Water District (OCWD).

Mr. Mills was born on April 19, 1937. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Geological Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in 1959 and went on to receive a Master's Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Loyola University at Los Angeles in 1983.

Mr. Mills started his engineering career as a Second Lieutenant, Engineering Officer in the United States Marine Corps from 1959 to 1963. From there, he began a lifetime dedicated to water resource planning and development, and his efforts have proven invaluable to water supply systems in Southern California and throughout the world. From 1963 to 1966, he worked as a Civil Engineer for the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Water Conservation Division. In 1966, Mr. Mills went on to work as a Civil Engineer for the California Department of Water Resources, until he was offered a job as President of the Planning and Development Division of the Planning Research Corporation in 1967. There he spent seventeen years directing a staff of 400 as they worked to generate water resource and wastewater reclamation investigations and designs. In the three years prior to his employment with the OCWD, Mr. Mills owned his own water-consulting firm. He was named Water Leader of the Year by the Association of California Water Agencies in 1992, received the Engineer of the Year Award by the Orange County Engineering Council, and was given the Presidential Award for Distinguished Service by the American Desalting Association in 1996. Furthermore, in 1999, he was awarded the Leadership in Engineering and Water Resources Award from the Institute for the Advancement of Engineering. He currently serves as chair of the Association of Ground Water Agencies and is chair of the Association of California Water Agencies' Water Quality Committee.

During his tenure at OCWD, Mr. Mills has been responsible for developing a long range plan for the district aimed at decreasing the

agency's dependence on imported supplies and improving the quality of surface and groundwater supplies. He was instrumental in promoting a program which uses recycled water for irrigation. To date more than \$200 million has been spent on the construction of water recycling plants, groundwater renovation projects, and improvements in the district's extensive groundwater recharge system. OCWD is currently in final design of the Ground Water Replenishment System, an innovative system that will use high-tech filtration to purify waste water, then pump it back into the county's ground-water basin. OCWD's groundwater reservoir provides about 75 percent of the water needs for two million residents. Thanks to the hard work, dedication, and skill of Mr. Mills, OCWD is known internationally for its innovative groundwater management programs and for promoting advanced waste water treatment technologies.

Colleagues, please join me in praise of William R. Mills' career as a globally-renowned, innovative, and forward thinking water expert dedicated to the improvement of water recycling and water storage systems for Southern California. He has dedicated his life to improving the well-being of Southern California's water and of water systems throughout the entire world. Mr. Mills is an asset to his community and to our country, and I am proud to recognize him for his contributions to the well-being of our nation's water.

AUTHORIZING A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF DESIGNATING EAST MAUI AS A NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mrs. MINK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill directing the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of establishing the East Maui National Heritage Area in the Hana district of East Maui in the State of Hawaii.

National Heritage Areas contain land and properties that reflect the history of their people and may include natural, scenic, historic, cultural, or recreation resources. Conservation and interpretation of these resources are handled by partnerships among federal, state, and local governments and nonprofit organizations.

East Maui is certainly an appropriate candidate for such designation. The Alliance for the Heritage of East Maui (AHM), with assistance from the U.S. Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program and the Trust for Public Land, have been working for many years to explore ways to protect and interpret the extraordinary historic and natural resources of East Maui. They have already compiled a Resource Inventory that describes East Maui's extensive archaeological sites (ancient trails, burial sites, heiau (temples), petroglyphs, canoe landings, villages, traditional agricultural complexes); historical sites (battle sites, churches, court-houses, irrigation works, bridges, fish ponds, and much more); natural resources that include Haleakala National Park and numerous native forests, endangered species, wildlife preserves, streams, unique beaches—including

a green sand beach and red cinder beach; and recreational resources that include several beach parks, recreation areas, trails, and natural area reserves.

Anyone who has taken the drive along the coast of East Maui to Hana knows that this list does not begin to describe the extraordinary beauty and richness of the area. In addition to the physical attributes that make East Maui an excellent candidate for designation as a National Heritage Area, you can add a dedicated cadre of citizens who are committed to ensuring that the people of East Maui be involved in determining the future of the area. They want to be sure that local values and input are reflected in any management plan for a National Heritage Area for East Maui. Indeed, much of the research for the study has already been completed due to the dedication of the Alliance for the Heritage of East Maui. I especially want to recognize Elizabeth Russell, who has been a driving force behind this effort. The Maui County Council has also been very supportive of this initiative.

At present, most of the nation's National Heritage Areas are located east of the Mississippi River. An East Maui National Heritage Area would be a marvelous addition to this program.

HONORING DAVID DONNELLY AND CINDY BISHOP DONNELLY

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of two friends and constituents, David and Cindy Bishop Donnelly. The Donnelly's will be honored by DiverseWorks, Inc., one of the nation's leading contemporary art centers, at the annual Illumination Gala on February 16, 2002. David and Cindy have been selected for their commitment to the arts in the greater Houston area.

DiverseWorks, Inc., is a non-profit art center dedicated to presenting new visual performing, and literary art. The organization's unique artistic educational and financial stability serve as a model for others across the nation. The staff members and volunteers of DiverseWorks, Inc. provide a tremendous service to young, aspiring artists throughout Houston. The talented people at DiverseWorks are leaders within our community and, this weekend, they recognize some of their most loyal supporters.

David and Cindy have been longtime champions of many civic programs in our community including the Lamar High School Parent Teacher Association. Both have served on the board of DiverseWorks, Inc. for a number of years, with David having served as treasurer for many of those years. The contributions of time and effort by David and Cindy have been instrumental in development of DiverseWorks as a mainstay in the Houston Arts Community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate my constituents, David Donnelly and Cindy Bishop Donnelly on their recognition by DiverseWorks and I thank them for their unyielding commitment to the arts in Houston and Texas.

AMERICAN HEART MONTH

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, A few years ago, I learned first-hand about the importance of preventative care for cardiovascular disease. My wife, Elsie, had a heart attack. It was a very difficult time period for her, and for our family. I am pleased to report that she is in good health today. And I can still celebrate this holiday with her. Unfortunately, not many women are as lucky as my wife. Heart disease is the number one killer of American women.

In fact, cardiovascular diseases kill more females each year than the next 9 causes of death combined. The seriousness of this disease doesn't stop there. Heart disease is our nation's number one killer and leading cause of long-term disability. We need to raise awareness to fight this disease. Preventive health care is the key to lowering the number of victims of heart disease.

Risk factors of heart disease are high cholesterol, high blood pressure, tobacco, lack of activity, and obesity. The majority of these risks can be prevented. And we can only accomplish this through education to raise awareness. February is American Heart month. I ask my colleagues to take advantage of this to spread awareness about heart disease and encourage healthy life styles.

COMMENDING NATIONAL HIGHWAY
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
REGARDING NATIONAL
CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY
WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution to commend the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for sponsoring National Child Passenger Safety Week. I also want to commend the sponsor of the legislation, Mr. CAMP, the Ranking Democratic Member of the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, Mr. BORSKI, the Chairman of the Subcommittee, Mr. PETRI, and the Chairman of the full Committee, Mr. YOUNG, for their support of the legislation.

In 2000, motor vehicle crashes killed more than 2,300 children under the age of 15 and injured another 291,000. Six out of ten children killed in these crashes were completely unrestrained. In 2000, only nine percent of all children under the age of five rode unrestrained, but they accounted for more than one half of all child occupant fatalities. This is not acceptable.

To increase seat belt use nationwide, the previous Administration established goals to reduce the number of child occupant fatalities 15 percent by 2000 and 25 percent by 2005. Education programs, such as TEA 21's Child Passenger Protection Education Grant program, and other programs, played important roles in helping the Department meet the first of these goals. In each of fiscal years 2000,

2001, and 2002, Congress provided \$7.5 million to finance the Child Passenger Protection Education Grant program in the Transportation Appropriations Act and pursuant to TEA 21. Forty-eight states, the District of Columbia, and the Territories have received grants under this program. Since 1997, the number of child fatalities resulting from traffic crashes has declined 17 percent, exceeding the previous Administration's goal of a 15 percent decline by the end of 2000. Restraint use for infants has risen to 95 percent from 85 percent in 1996, and has climbed to 91 percent for children aged one to four, up from 60 percent in 1996.

The proper use of child restraint systems can save lives, Mr. Speaker. It is essential that we continue to remind parents that all children should use restraint systems properly and to continue providing funding for grant programs to ensure that we continue to make progress in preventing deaths and injuries to children on our Nation's highways. These efforts will help us achieve our goal of a 25-percent reduction in child occupant fatalities by 2005.

Again, I want to commend the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and its Administrator, Dr. Jeff Runge, for sponsoring National Child Passenger Safety Week. I strongly support the concurrent resolution and urge its approval.

IN RECOGNITION OF FEBRUARY AS
AMERICAN HEART MONTH

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize February as the American Heart Association Month to demonstrate the seriousness of cardiovascular diseases, including heart and stroke.

Founded by six doctors in 1924, the American Heart Association is a national voluntary health agency whose mission is to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke. This organization serves as a key resource of information for heart patients, advocates, and survivors. Heart disease and stroke are two of the nation's top three leading causes of death, claiming the lives of more than 960,000 Americans each year.

The American Heart Association has titled this year's theme "Be Prepared for Cardiac Emergencies. Know the signs of cardiac arrest. Call 9-1-1 immediately. Give CPR." Promoting the importance of knowing signs and symptoms of a cardiac emergency can literally be the difference between life and death. Every minute that passes without defibrillation and CPR, the chance of survival for a cardiac arrest victim decreases by 7 to 10 percent. According to the Archives of Internal Medicine, most heart attack patients wait more than two hours before seeking emergency care, initially because they do not recognize the symptoms of a heart attack. In my home state of Texas, heart disease is the leading killer, as well as nationally among women, with more than 370,000 deaths a year.

In observance of this special month, we acknowledge the researchers, physicians, health care professionals, public education professionals, and volunteers for their commitment to prevention, awareness, research, and treat-

ment of this disease. Thanks to these workers and their unwavering resolve, the American Heart Association has established a chain of survival for victims of sudden cardiac arrest. The four links in the chain of survival involve, early access to phones and emergency exits, early CPR, early defibrillation and early advanced life support. These important tools are critical in saving a person's life when they cardiac arrest.

No one understands that better than Joel Ruby, of West University in my district, who suffered his first heart attack in his early forties. He has since undergone several angioplasty surgeries and continues to battle congestive heart failure. Although he continues his ongoing battle with heart disease, Joel has also become an active board member of the Houston Chapter of the American Heart Association. Joel's involvement is a testament to his commitment and the dedication of countless others to the American Heart Association and the lives of people inspired by it.

Again, I wish the American Heart Association continued success on their "American Heart Month" and to continue their mission to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke.

REMEMBER CHINA'S WORKING
CLASS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, President Bush will be traveling to the People's Republic of China on Saturday, February 16, 2002 to meet with the leaders of that country. He will be discussing issues ranging from the war on terrorism to improving trade relations between our two nations.

I view this trip as an important and positive part of the ongoing U.S.-China dialogue. However, I believe it is imperative that we do not ignore the suffering of the working class in China. I recently read an article in the Washington Post about the Shuangfeng Textile Factory located in Dafeng, China. According to the Washington Post, corruption has engulfed the firm, leaving thousands of workers with little pay and little hope. Top executives of the firm have forced workers to buy over priced company stock and to accept pay cuts of up to 50%, which amounts to \$25 to \$40 a month. Reportedly, resistance to those demands has resulted in some employees losing their jobs.

The workers attempted to acquire the attention of local and federal officials by signing petitions and staging strikes. They sat in the factory for days and nights, not even returning home to see their loved ones. During those nights, police stormed into the factory and used force to drag them outside. The police also made dozens of arrests to try and put an end to the employee uprising. In spite of all this, the government apparently took no action to investigate the case. Eventually, the workers were defeated and had to accept the terms of management and return to their jobs with broken spirits. I hope all of my colleagues take the time to read the portion of the Washington Post article that I have submitted for the RECORD.

Instances, such as the one at the Shuangfeng Textile Factory, are cause for great concern. People in China are crying out for justice and they must not be ignored. I urge President Bush to raise this issue with the leadership of China and work with them to help improve the situation. More over, the President should press China to improve its labor, environment, and human rights record in general. It is important for us to take advantage of our dialogue with China to help put an end to the suffering of so many people.

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 21, 2002]

**"HIGH TIDE" OF LABOR UNREST IN CHINA
STRIKING WORKERS RISK ARREST TO PROTEST
PAY CUTS, CORRUPTION
(By Philip P. Pan)**

DAFENG, CHINA.—On the fourth night of the strike, management cut off the heat. The 2,000 workers occupying the Shuangfeng Textile Factory responded by huddling together and wrapping themselves in thick blankets and surplus military coats. Even as the temperature neared freezing, they refused to leave.

Not long ago, banners on the factory walls reminded workers they were "masters" of the Communist state. Now, the same workers were camped on a cold floor between rows of rusty spinning machines, nursing their grievances over boiled water and biscuits.

Mostly middle-aged women, they spoke quietly of pay cuts and worthless stock shares, of corrupt officials and missing pension funds, of being cheated in China's rough-and-tumble transition from socialism to capitalism.

They spoke, too, of the risks they were taking by fighting back.

Three times, police had tried to expel them from the factory, dragging women out by the hair, jabbing others with electric batons. Three times, the workers had managed to hold on. Now, there were rumors a military police unit had been summoned to this small city 150 miles north of Shanghai.

"We know this is dangerous," said one young woman sitting in a corner of the vast factory floor near large spools of white cotton yarn. "But it's too late to be scared now."

Then, glancing out a window, she added nervously: "The police should be here soon."

The battle in Dafeng, which began Dec. 16 and ended less than two weeks later in defeat for the workers, is part of a larger story playing out across China's fast-changing industrial landscape. Two decades after the ruling Communist Party adopted capitalist economic reforms while continuing to restrict political freedom, growing numbers of Chinese workers are risking arrest to stage strikes, sit-downs and other demonstrations.

In many ways, these protests are acts of desperation by people struggling to survive without the help of effective labor unions, courts or other institutions that provide checks and balances in a market economy.

As thousands of state factories are closed or sold, workers who once were promised lifetime job security and benefits now face mass layoffs and, sometimes, the loss of their savings to corrupt managers. Their willingness to fight back presents a thorny political problem for a party that has always staked its legitimacy on providing a better life for the working class.

It is difficult to estimate how often these protests occur, in part because local officials often try to conceal them from their superiors.

But one recent government report acknowledges the country is in the midst of a "high tide" of labor unrest, with the number of workers participating in strikes more

than doubling in the first half of the 1990s alone. Another report in an internal party publication said there were 30,000 protests of significant size in 2000, or more than 80 incidents per day.

The authorities often respond to these protests by trying to appease the workers; at other times they react with force, sending in police and jailing the most outspoken demonstrators.

"We have no idea what's going to happen next," the young woman in the factory here said that night as the strike wore on. Like many interviewed for this report, she asked not to be identified out of fear she would be arrested. "The government doesn't want to back down, and neither do we."

A SECRET BANKRUPTCY

The Shuangfeng Textile Factory lies on the outskirts of Dafeng, a quick drive from the city's glittering downtown into a dreary neighborhood of run-down buildings and dirt alleyways. Off the main roadway, past a row of ramshackle shops, a large crowd of workers gathers in front of the factory's creaky metal gate.

There is no picket line, just a group of men and women in heavy coats milling about restlessly in the middle of the road, stamping their feet to keep warm under a pale yellow street lamp. Their faces are lined from years of squinting while operating spinning machines and, more recently, from lack of sleep. Some of the workers are smoking; others have been drinking. Every time a car drives by, the crowd gets jittery.

Past the gate is the factory itself, a deteriorating complex built in 1931, before the Communist revolution. It is the city's oldest and largest textile mill, one of several in this cotton-growing region that produces yarn and cloth for the nation's garment factories.

In the mid-1990s, Beijing began pushing local officials to either get rid of small, money-losing state firms like the mill or make them profitable. What followed was a disorderly process in which the government often sold stock in factories to the workers, but retained control as the majority shareholder. China's Communist rulers had not yet embraced full privatization.

"Some people invested willingly. Others didn't think it was a good idea. But in the end, we all handed over the money," said one worker in the spinning division. "If we didn't give them the money, we would lose our jobs."

Last November, the company suddenly and secretly filed for bankruptcy. The factory boss and several other managers emerged as the firm's new owners. The workers discovered what had happened only weeks later, when a local newspaper published a short item about the transaction.

They immediately suspected they had been victim of a "fake bankruptcy," a common phenomenon in China in which corrupt managers hide a factory's assets, declare bankruptcy and then purchase the firm themselves at a reduced price, often with money they have embezzled.

The man who gained the most in the bankruptcy was Shi Yongsheng, the mill's manager and now its largest shareholder, according to workers and local officials. Shi was appointed to run the mill only three years ago after a career managing several smaller state factories in Dafeng, including a tannery and a fur plant.

Residents describe him as a close friend of one of the city's deputy party secretaries. Workers said he bragged to other managers about his plan to slash salaries. Shi did not return telephone calls, and a government spokesman said Shi was too busy to speak to reporters.

But a company document obtained by workers showed that the factory owed them

\$14 million, including \$2 million for the shares they had purchased and \$3 million they had paid toward their pensions. In addition, the document said, the government had provided the factory with nearly \$8 million to help it cover its debts to workers and provide those laid off with welfare payments.

A government official in Dafeng confirmed the figures were accurate. Where all that money went, though, remains a mystery.

"What happened to our money? How did we go bankrupt?" asked one longtime employee, who asked that he be identified only by his surname, Zhang. "We had a lot of questions. No one gave us any answers."

STRIKE WITHOUT SLOGANS

Instead of an explanation, the workers got a pay cut. On Dec 13, managers began calling in employees and demanding they sign new contracts slashing their salaries by half, to between \$25 and \$40 a month.

The workers revolted. In a meeting, an employee tore up the contract in front of her supervisors, workers said. In another, a worker denounced factory managers, saying, "Officials live off the labor of the workers!"

With resistance rising, the company tried to make an example of two outspoken employees in the spinning division, young mothers named Chen Feng and Liu Landing. On the morning of Dec. 16, the factory hung a large poster on the front gate declaring that "the two comrades have separated from their posts and from the factory."

"I had worked in the mill for seven or eight years, and I have an 11-year-old child to support," said Chen, 29, by telephone several weeks later. "So, of course, I was depressed." Chen declined to discuss why she was fired, but she confirmed what happened next: "The workers went on strike, and they asked the company to let me go back to work."

A strike is a sensitive undertaking in China. The Communist Party has always portrayed itself as a workers' party, and it still teaches schoolchildren how Mao Zedong launched his career by organizing strikes among miners and railway workers. But the government has also absorbed the lesson of how strikes helped bring down Communist regimes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

**HONORING DAN TIDWELL AND
JAMIE MIZE**

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dan Tidwell and Jamie Mize. On February 16, 2002, Diverse Works Artspace, will host its Illumination Gala which will honor Dan and Jamie as two of Houston's most enlightened contemporary art champions. Diverse Works Artspace is a non-profit art center dedicated to presenting new visual, performing, and literary art. Known for its ground-breaking artistic education programs, Diverse Works is one of the most prominent contemporary art centers in the United States. Diverse Works serves as a venue for artistic exploration and audience development.

Dan Tidwell and Jamie Mize are longtime businessmen and philanthropists who pioneered the revitalization of Houston's Historic Downtown District. In 1978, Dan and Jamie opened their first restaurant, Treebeards, in Houston's historic Market Square as a tiny establishment hosting only 30 guests. Today,

Treebeards has grown to four locations in both downtown Houston and Dallas and in 1999 was named "Best Downtown Restaurant" by the readers of the Houston Press. The rebuilding of the Treebeards' Market Square location marked one of the many restoration endeavors taken on by the pair. In 1999, they reconstructed the Scholibo building, rebuilt the canopy and restored the facade of the 1861 Baker-Myer Building.

Dan and Jamie have both served as Chair of the Downtown Historic District Board. In an effort to rejuvenate downtown Houston, they have provided direction to neighboring businesses on issues ranging from building design to parking management. Jamie currently serves as a member of the Design Review/Grants Committee, which awards facade rehabilitation matching grants to property owners and tenants. Additionally, he chaired the committee on Parking Management, as a result of their work, the City of Houston has adopted a Valet Ordinance. In collaboration with Diverse Works, Dan and Jamie designed Market Square Park, which features historic photographs and fragments of long demolished buildings.

In addition to serving as Chair of the Downtown Historic District Board and managing an establishment, Dan and Jamie have been actively involved in humanitarian efforts. Their exceptional leadership in the community has earned the respect of many in both the business and civic communities. They have contributed to the improvement of our community by providing countless meals for charity events, volunteering for Diverse Works Galas, and feeding the hungry through the End Hunger Network.

No one has done more to improve Houston's Historic Market Square District than Dan and Jamie. Through their exemplary model of community activism, they were named "Downtowners" of the Year 1999," awarded two "Gold Brick Awards" from the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance and received the highest honor for historic preservation from the American Planning Association, Houston Affiliation.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate my friends, Dan Tidwell and Jamie Mize, on the occasion of their being recognized for their significant commitment to the Arts.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY HONORS
CENTENARIAN JEANETTE GIUNCO

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Central New Jersey centenarian, Ms. Jeanette Giunco, a resident of Freehold, NJ celebrating her one-hundredth birthday on Sunday, February 17, 2002.

Born to Elizabeth Seckler and Joseph Schmidt in Mulhouse, in the Province of Alsace-Lorraine, Germany, Ms. Giunco was one of eight children. Throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s, Alsace-Lorraine was a disputed region between France and Germany. As a result of the Versailles Peace Treaty in 1918, the region returned to France. It is interesting to note that during World War II, her brother August repaired General Eisenhower's automobile and shook his hand during the European Conflict.

Ms. Giunco came to the United States in 1926 where she lived in New York City and took her first—and according to her, her best—job, as a companion speaking French to a businessman's family as she was fluent in German, French, Alsatian and English. Another job as a companion and housekeeper moved her to Belmar, New Jersey in 1927 to work for the Strauss family.

During that same year, Jeanette married a local Belmar merchant, Mr. Albert P. Giunco. Albert's family had operated various businesses in Belmar since the 1870s and by 1927, Albert and his brothers ran a series of food markets, liquor stores and butcher shops in the Monmouth County shore area. Jeanette and Albert had two children, John and Richard. Currently, Ms. Giunco is the proud grandmother of eight and great-grandmother of nine.

Ms. Giunco was involved with many civic organizations such as the Belmar Women's Club and Fitkin Hospital—now know as the Jersey Shore Medical Center. Fitkin Hospital recognized her for over 2,000 hours of volunteer service.

Ms. Giunco has traveled extensively, visiting Europe as well as travels throughout the United States, Canada and South America.

As a proud citizen of the United States, Ms. Giunco has exercised her rights throughout the years, particularly carrying out her right to vote. She reflects that the World Wars and

particularly the attack on Pearl Harbor were significant events and has found particular fascination with the fact that when she was born, airplanes and rockets were but a dream and yet less than 70 years later there was a man walking on the moon. Ms. Giunco regrets the recent terrorist attacks against the United States and has prayed for peace throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, again, I rise to celebrate and honor this Central New Jersey centenarian and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Jeanette Giunco and celebrating her one hundredth birthday on Sunday, February 17, 2002.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNNIE THOMPSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Johnnie Thompson of South Carolina, a decorated combat veteran of the Korean War who, after retiring from the Army, served for twenty-two years as an elected official on the City Council of Walterboro, South Carolina.

Over the years he has maintained a commitment to veterans of the armed forces. In 1989, he co-chaired a committee that established a Colleton County Veterans Monument to honor all of Colleton County's fallen veterans from World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

In 1993 he was instrumental in bringing back the renowned Tuskegee Airmen who trained for combat in Walterboro, South Carolina, and the Governor awarded the Order of the Palmetto to each of the Tuskegee Airmen who attended. These events brought worldwide attention to Walterboro and to the State of South Carolina. Under Mr. Thompson's leadership a World War II Memorial Park was dedicated and the Tuskegee Airmen Monument was unveiled at the Walterboro Airport in 1997.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in honoring Johnnie Thompson for the outstanding service he has provided the U.S. Army, the state of South Carolina, and his beloved Walterboro Community. I sincerely thank Mr. Thompson for his contributions and wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.