by all who knew and loved him. He was a per-
sion of unquestioned integrity and of unparal-
leled morality, and is truly an inspiration to us
all. As his family mourns his loss, I believe it
is appropriate to remember John and pay trib-
ute to him for his warm heart, and his many
contributions to Saguache County and the
State of Colorado.

John was born and raised on his family's
homestead just southeast of Saguache, Colo-
rado, which was founded in the 1890s by his
grandfather and great-uncle. He completed his
higher education at Colorado State University,
and then returned to the ranch, working with
the land as both a rancher and a cowboy. John
was a life-long rancher and ranching edu-
cator, creating pamphlets and other materials
on the subject. During World War II, he took
time off from ranching to serve his country in
the Pacific theatre. John continued his service
to his fellow citizens by becoming Saguache
County Commissioner, selflessly serving three
terms beginning in 1958. His service and dedi-
cation to his community and to his state are
exactly the attributes that made John the in-
credible man that he was. I, along with the
people of Saguache County, am grateful for all
of the hard work and passion that he lent to
his job and to his fellow citizens.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by
the loss of John Woodard, but take comfort in
the knowledge that our grief is overshadowed
only by the deep sense of courage, selflessness
and love that he left with all of us. His dedica-
tion to the community of Saguache County
was extraordinary, though his life was more
so. John Woodard’s life is the very embeddi-
ment 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.

COMMEMDATION OF THE MOBILITY
PROJECT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to
commend the work of The Mobility Project, an
organization which serves the underprivileged
with disabilities in other nations.

The Mobility Project has distributed wheel-
chairs and other mobility aids, along with sur-
plus medical supplies and physical therapy
equipment, free of charge to the disabled poor
in Vietnam, Mexico, El Salvador, Nicaragua,
Pakistan, Afghanistan, and refugee camps in
Kashmir. The volunteers with The Mobility
Project give a tremendous amount of time and
thorough care into ensuring that each wheel-
chair or mobility aid is properly adjusted to the
individual for whom it is intended.

As you may know, in many places of the
world the disabled are resented or are pushed
out of active participation in society. Some are
even left in as virtual prisoners in their rooms.
The work of The Mobility Project gives hope to
people and offers an avenue for the disabled
to be productive members of their society. In
addition to giving wheelchairs and other aids
to those in need, The Mobility Project helps to
provide those returned to the ranch, ranching
programs, and job training for the disabled poor.

I have seen the faces of refugees and other
suffering people who have received the gift of
mobility as a result of the work of this organi-
zation. I watched the face of a young Paki-
stani girl who received a wheelchair—it will
change her life.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to honor those
in our world and in our nation who quietly,
humbly, and ably serve people in need. The
Mobility Project volunteers, particularly Presi-
dent and co-founder and Vice President and
co-founder Ray Terrill, are role models for us
all.

COMMENDING KANSAS YOUTH FOR
THEIR COMMITMENT TO COMMU-
NITY SERVICE

HON. DENNIS MOORE
OF KANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to
congratulate and honor three young students
from my district for their recent recognition for
exemplary volunteer service in their communities. Ashley Wright, Aishingh O’Connor, and Emily Gipple have been named three of my state’s top honorees in the 2002
Prudential Spirit of Community Awards pro-
gram, an annual honor conferred on the most
impressive student volunteers in each state, the
District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Miss Wright is being recognized for forming
a vocal music performance class for develop-
mentally challenged adults in her community.
Miss O’Connor has raised over $30,000 in
funds to build an inner-city neighborhood. Miss Gipple is being recog-
nized for starting a school club that helps for-
eign exchange and limited-English speaking
students make friends and integrate success-
fully into both the school and community.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate
Americans are less involved in their commu-
nities than they once were, it’s vital that we
encourage and support the kind of selfless
contribution these young citizens have made.
People of all ages need to think more about
how we, as individual citizens, can work to-
gether at the local level to ensure the health
and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods.
Young volunteers like Miss Wright, Miss O’Con-
nor, and Miss Gipple are inspiring ex-
amples to all of us, and are among our bright-
est hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought these young role
models to our attention—The Prudential Spirit
of Community Awards—was created by Pru-
dential Financial in partnership with the Na-
tional Association of School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volun-
teers that their contributions are critically im-
portant and highly valued, and to inspire other
young people to follow their example. Over
the past seven years, the program has become
the nation’s largest youth recognition effort
based solely on community service, with near-
ly 125,000 young people participating since its
inception.

Miss Wright, Miss O’Connor, and Miss
Gipple should be extremely proud to have
been singled out from such a large group of
dedicated young people. I applaud Miss Wright,
Miss O’Connor, and Miss Gipple for their ini-
tiative in seeking to make their communities
better places to live, and for the positive im-
pact they have had on the lives of others.
They have demonstrated a level of commit-
ment and accomplishment that is truly extraor-
dinary in today’s world, and deserve our sin-
cere admiration and respect. Their actions
show that young Americans can—and do—
play an important role in our communities, and
that America’s spirit continues to hold tremen-
dous promise for the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SOCIAL
SECURITY PROGRAM PROTEC-
TION ACT OF 2002

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, today I am intro-
ducing the “Social Security Program Protec-
tion Act of 2002” to provide the Social Secu-
rit Administration with the additional tools
they need to fight activities that drain re-
sources from Social Security and undermine
the fiscal security of beneficiaries...

Many Social Security and Supplemental
Security Income beneficiaries have individuals
or organizations called “representative payees”
appointed by the Social Security Administra-
tion to help manage their financial affairs when
they are not capable. At present nearly 7 mil-
ion beneficiaries entrust their financial ar-
rangements to “rep payees.” Representative
payees safeguard income and make sure ex-
penditures are made for the beneficiary’s
good. Most of them are conscientious and
honest, however, some are not. The current
precautions have not prevented abuse as well
as hoped. This bill raises the standards for
representative payee positions and imposes
stricter regulation and monetary penalties on
those who fail their duties and their clients.

This bill also picks up where our 1996 legis-
lation ended in stopping benefit payments to
those who have committed crimes. In that
year, Congress passed provisions denying
Supplemental Security Income benefits to
those individuals fleeing to avoid prosecution
or confinement. Fugitive felons, however, can
still receive Title II benefits that come directly
out of the Social Security trust funds. This is
not right and this legislation denies the money
to those fleeing justice.

My legislation also provides tools to further
protect the integrity of Social Security pro-
grams, protect Social Security employees from
harm while conducting their duties, expand the
Inspector General’s ability to stop perpetrators
of fraud through new civil monetary penalties,
and prevent persons from misrepresenting
themselves as they provide Social Security-re-
lated services.

My legislation not only prevents fraud and
protects the Social Security programs, it also
helps those who are legitimately seeking to re-
ceive benefits. Provisions from the Attorney
Fee Payment System Improvement Act of
2001 to improve the attorney fee withholding
provisions are also included in this bill. These
provisions cap the current fee assessment and
extend withholding to Supplemental Security
Income claims, so more individuals with dis-
abilities are able to receive needed help navig-
ating a complex application process for bene-
fits.

And finally, this legislation continues the
great work of the Ticket to Work and Work In-
centives Improvement Act, helping individuals
