

permanent residents. We demanded full due process for Americans charged with a crime in a foreign country and we should not set a different standard for non-citizens.

The legislation also provides regulations for the detainment of suspects and the conditions of detainment. For example, detainees must be provided with the basic necessities such as adequate food, water and medical attention. In addition, it also allows the free exercise of religion.

Lastly, the legislation requires all proceedings to be made public unless it is determined that closed proceedings are necessary for the safety of involved parties including witnesses or judges. This openness will prove to all Americans and to the world that we have respect for basic Constitutional rights. The horrible events of September 11 should not cause us to reject the American system of justice.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE
GIRLS SCOUTS' 90-YEAR COMMIT-
MENT TO AMERICAN GIRLS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, for the past 90 years, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America (GSUSA) have been pursuing a mission to help all girls grow to be strong, positive contributors to society. Established on March 12, 1912, with a group of 18 girls, GSUSA has since grown to a membership of nearly 3 million girls nationwide, with an alumni base of over 50 million women.

The mission of GSUSA is to empower all girls to develop to their full potential. Activities encouraging strong values, leadership, responsibility, confidence, and friendship have been core elements of the Girl Scout program. The GSUSA seeks to enable young women to grow into strong citizens by teaching money and financial management, health and fitness, global awareness, and community service. Millions of Girl Scouts have, through resources provided through the GSUSA, been introduced to the arts, science, math, and technology.

In my home state of Kansas, 50,000 girls and adults participate in Girl Scouts. Local initiatives have included: an anti-violence program for girls and mothers; a "Beyond Bars" program encouraging Girl Scout activities with incarcerated mothers; girls' sport programs that teach health and fitness skills, as well as allowing young female athletes the opportunity to meet professional female athletes; and several other initiatives designed to teach self-confidence, values, integrity, and leadership.

I commend the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. for their support, dedication, and commitment to American girls, and I applaud them, on this, their 90th anniversary.

AIRLINE WORKERS AND VICTIMS
OF TERRORISM MORTGAGE RE-
LIEF ACT OF 2002

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, on September 13, 2001, in response to the September 11th tragedy, Secretary Mel Martinez of HUD directed all FHA-approved lenders to provide a 90-day mortgage forbearance for families with FHA insured mortgages who were affected by the recent terrorist attacks. "Affected, borrowers are those individuals who were passengers or crew on the four hijacked airliners (American Airlines 11 and 77, United Airlines 93 and 175), individuals employed on September 11, 2001, in or near the World Trade Center, or in the Pentagon, and individuals whose financial viability was affected by the . . . events of [that] day." (HUD Mortgage Letter 01-21.)

As evidenced by the \$15 billion bail out that followed the events of September 11, the effects felt by the airline industry were amongst the most immediate and devastating experienced within the corporate world. It follows naturally, that the devastation experienced by the airlines was ultimately felt by the 150,000+ employees whose financial viability was affected by the ongoing wave of post-September 11th lay offs.

Also affected by the tragic events of September 11th, are the families of those killed, who have experienced considerable difficulty in meeting their financial obligations. And while Congress, in creating the September 11th Victims Compensation Fund, has worked hard to stem the financial devastation felt by thousands of families after September 11th, there are some who may be falling through the cracks.

Fortunately there is a measure, which if revived and applied to parties affected by the events of September 11th, can help.

The Airline Workers and Victims of Terrorism Mortgage Relief Act of 2002 accomplishes this goal by:

Adopting the expired language of HUD Letter 01-21;

Making clear that the moratorium on FHA foreclosure outlined in HUD Letter 01-21 must apply to (1) laid off employees of foreign and domestic air carriers and (2) laid off employees of manufacturers aircraft used by foreign or domestic carriers;

Expanding for all eligible borrowers, the 90-day forbearance to 180 days from enactment; Requiring the Secretary of HUD to inform mortgagees of the aforementioned changes;

Also, those eligible for compensation under the so-called "9-11 fund," (PL 107-42), would be covered until receipt of compensation money;

Those who opt to forgo the compensation money by bringing suit, (§ 405(c)(3)(B)(i)), would still be eligible for forbearance for 18 months after enactment, or until verdict rendered in the first lawsuit, whichever comes first, if suit is brought during the 180 day forbearance period; and

The bill also stipulates that coverage under the Act would not count as a "collateral source" as defined by the Compensation Fund language. (§ 405(b)(3) provides that the Special Master "shall reduce the amount of com-

pensation . . . by the amount of the collateral source compensation the claimant has received or is entitled to receive. . . .")

In light of HUD Letter 01-21, as well as Congressional concerns over the health of the airline industry, and the financial well-being of the families of victims of September 11th, the Airline Workers and Victims of Terrorism Mortgage Relief Act of 2002 would afford Congress the perfect opportunity to give both groups the added assistance that they deserve.

THE ABANDONED HARDROCK
MINES RECLAMATION ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Abandoned Hardrock Mines Reclamation Act. This bill is designed to help promote the cleanup of abandoned and inactive hardrock mines that are a menace to the environment and public health throughout the country, but especially in the west.

THE BACKGROUND

For over one hundred years, miners and prospectors have searched for and developed valuable "hardrock" minerals—gold, silver, copper, molybdenum, and others. Hardrock mining has played a key role in the history of Colorado and other states, and the resulting mineral wealth has been an important aspect of our economy and the development of essential products.

However, as all westerners know, this history has too often been marked by a series of "boom" times followed by a "bust" when mines were no longer profitable—because ore bodies were exhausted or not economically recoverable with contemporary technology, or because of depressed mineral prices. When these busts came, too often the miners would abandon their workings and move on, seeking riches over the next mountain. The resulting legacy of unsafe open mine shafts and acid mine drainages can be seen throughout the country and especially on the western public lands where mineral development was encouraged to help settle our region.

THE PROBLEMS

The problems caused by abandoned and inactive mines are very real and very large—including acidic water draining from old tunnels, heavy metals leaching into streams killing fish and tainting water supplies, open vertical mine shafts, dangerous highwalls, large open pits, waste rock piles that are unsightly and dangerous, and hazardous dilapidated structures.

And, unfortunately, many of our current environmental laws, designed to mitigate the impact from operating hardrock mines, are of limited effectiveness when applied to abandoned and inactive mines. As a result, many of these old mines go on polluting streams and rivers and potentially risking the health of people who live nearby or downstream.

The full scope of these problems is hard to estimate because many of these old mines are in remote regions and because a complete inventory does not exist. Some states and federal agencies have done some inventory work, but in 1996 the General Accounting Office, after reviewing available data, found that many