The Social Security Benefit Enhancements for Women Act of 2002

Hon. Robert T. Matsui
Of California
In the House of Representatives

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. Matsui. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with the Chairman of the Social Security Subcommittee, Mr. Shaw, in introducing this bill aimed at making improvements in benefits for women under the current Social Security system.

In order to maintain fiscal responsibility, we were limited in the number and scope of the improvements we were able to make. However, the disabled widows, divorced retirees, and widows whose husbands died shortly after retirement who are affected by these improvements will certainly benefit from these changes.

Equally important as the benefit changes themselves, however, is what this bill symbolizes. It shows the importance of maintaining and preserving the defined-benefit Social Security system we have today. It shows how we are able to improve the fortunes of needy beneficiaries by building on the existing structure of the Social Security system. And it shows how the two parties are able to work together on the goal: to put aside Social Security privatization and instead improve Social Security’s guaranteed, lifelong, secure benefits.

I look forward to the swift adoption of these important benefit enhancements.

In Honor of Teresa Johnson-Hunt

Hon. Edolphus Towns
Of New York
In the House of Representatives

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. Towns. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Teresa Johnson-Hunt in recognition of her tireless energy and passionate commitment to her community.

Teresa, affectionately called “Terry”, is the third oldest of seven children born to the late Nathaniel and Louise Haywood Johnson of Panama. She came to New York in the early sixties to pursue a career as a Fashion Designer. She graduated from the Mayer School of Fashion Design and the Fashion Institute in New York City.

She was employed as an Assistant Fashion Designer for twelve years at several prominent fashion houses in the “Fashion District”. Her career took her to many interesting places and gave her the chance to meet many influential people. One of her most memorable moments was her assignment to design costumes for a group of performers for the New York Metropolitan Opera.

Her professional accomplishments, include a certificate in Word Processing from Brooklyn College and a certificate in Health Administration from the City of New York’s Health Services Administration. After attending LaGuardia Community College, she decided to change careers and enter the field of healthcare. She started this new chapter in her life by volunteering as an EKG Technician.
next offering was a cover of Fats Domino’s Ain’t That A Shame, a song that propelled both Fats and Boone to stardom. He followed with a cover version of El Dorados’ At My Front Door, which quickly became his second record to reach the Top Ten.

Boone had his own way of doing R&B songs. His formula worked and his records sold well. He took on Little Richard, recording Tutti Frutti and Long Tall Sally, both of which he made into big hits. By 1957 Boone’s popularity had skyrocketed and the movie and television producers came calling. He appeared in 15 films, including Bernardine, April Love, and State Fair. From 1957 to 1960 he hosted his own television series The Pat Boone/Chevy Showroom. His final top-40 song was a novelty record, Speedy Gonzalez in 1962 and it peaked at number six.

Boone also had a number of country hits in the 70s, with singles Indiana Girl and Texas Woman and albums I Love You More And More Each Day and The Country Side Of Pat Boone. Pat has also been popular in the United Kingdom, where he had 27 records reach the top 40.

Pat Boone has always been a man of deep, personal faith. Over and over again, he has acted on his faith to help other people.

He should be recognized most of all for his self-sacrificing devotion to charity work and for simply carrying out God’s call to love Him and to love others. Boone wrote a best-selling autobiography and dedicated the proceeds to establish a Christian college in Villanov, Pennsylvania. He has served as the national spokesman for the March of Dimes, National Association of the Blind and many other charities. Boone served for 18 years as the entertainment chairman and host of the National Easter Seal telethon, which raised over $600 million for handicapped and disabled children.

Mr. Speaker, today I honor the great Pat Boone on behalf of the hundreds and hundreds of children whose lives have been made better through Bethel Bible Village children’s home in my hometown of Chattanooga, TN. For 25 years, Pat has not just associated his name with Bethel Bible Village, but he has put his heart and soul into its success. Each year, for the past 25 years, he has sponsored their largest fundraiser, the Pat Boone Bethel Spectacular, which has raised over $1.3 million to help children in the Chattanooga area whose lives have been shattered by crime and troubled homes. Pat’s involvement has brought national recognition to Bethel Bible Village, which has allowed them to expand their ministry exponentially. Pat Boone is a true friend to these children and his personal testimony has had such a positive influence on their lives.

Pat Boone is a recording legend and humanitarian role model who understands that the true joy of giving occurs when one doesn’t expect anything in return. Over his 40-year career as an entertainer, he has worn the hats of musician, actor, author, and radio host. His tireless commitment to helping others personifies the Biblical instruction that, “to whom so ever much is given, much is also required.”

IN HONOR OF PASTOR PAULINE WILLIAMS GRIFFIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Pastor Pauline Williams Griffin in recognition of her work as a leader in the Church of God in Christ Jesus, an educator, a counselor, community leader, professional woman, wife and mother. Pauline Williams Griffin was born in Angier, North Carolina. She received her elementary and the first part of her secondary education in Lillington, North Carolina. After her family moved to New York City in 1944, she graduated from Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn, she went on to attend Pace University, Bank Street College and The College for Human Services.

Her Bishop, Dr. W.H. Amos, Chief Apostle of the Church of God in Christ Jesus, appointed her Elder of the Church of God in Christ Jesus, N.D. in 1965. Elder Griffin moved rapidly within this setting, as she became the state Mother of the Church of God in Christ Jesus for New York State. She is currently the General Mother as well as a Board Member of the Bank Street College, Community Day Care Action Coalition. She is the Director of the Church of God in Christ Jesus Day Care Center as well as the Executive Director of the Church of God in Christ Jesus After-School Program at P.S. 81 in Brooklyn. Elder Griffin is also a member of Community Planning Board No. 3. She serves as the Director of a comprehensive program for young people which includes personal and health counseling and has been directly responsible for the enrollment of 60 students in the program of College for Human Services. In addition, she is Vice President of the Movement for Meaningful Involvement in Child Care. Elder Griffin serves as Vice President of the United Minorities, Inc., is a member of the New York State Citizens Coalition for Children Inc. and the Chairperson of the Concerned Foster and Adoptive Parents Support Group, Inc. as well as belonging to a host of professional organizations.

Pauline is married to Elder Clifton Griffin and is blessed with two lovely daughters, two sons and a beautiful granddaughter. Mr. Speaker, Pastor Pauline Williams Griffin is a dedicated leader of her community and her church. She is committed to teaching the word of God and bringing the word to the greater community. 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.

RE-REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN DE- NYING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN AZERBAIJAN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the ongoing re-registration campaign for religious organizations conducted by the State Commi-