

Since 1940, Dr. Cooke has been married to the former Rose M. Clifford. Their four children have earned six college degrees.

The achievements of Dr. Paul Phillips Cooke serve as an inspiration for us all as we work to expand educational opportunities in the nation's capital. It is important that he be praised by the community at large. As the Congresswoman for the District of Columbia, I applaud Dr. Cooke's commitment to step into the breach and provide opportunities, options and hope, and give my best wishes for continued success in his important work.

INTRODUCING THE TEACHER VICTIMS' FAMILY ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2002

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, a recent study conducted by the National School Safety Center on School Associated Violent Deaths notes that between 1992 and 2001, 33 teachers, school administrators, school employees, or volunteers, have been fatal victims of school violence. This means that during that nine-year period, teacher, school administrator or some other school employee in America was killed while performing the duties of his or her job every fourteen weeks.

A similar study done by the U.S. Department of Justice stated that teachers, school administrators and other school employees accounted for nearly 10 percent of all fatalities from school violence on campuses nationwide. Even more disturbing is that the majority of faculty fatalities occurred when a school employee attempted to stop a fight or some type of disagreement between students or other faculty members. In trying to stop school violence, these school employees became victims of school violence themselves.

On May 26, 2000, my district was struck with horror when a thirteen year old student walked into Lake Worth Middle School and shot and killed his teacher, Mr. Barry Grungow. While this tragic event once again raised the important issues of school safety, gun control, and the minimum age at which a child can be tried as an adult, to the Grungow family, the tragic death of Barry Grungow has meant much more.

In addition to the painful loss of a father and husband, Barry Grungow's death had a long-term effect on the entire Grungow family. Barry's death meant that, within six months, the entire Grungow family would find themselves without health care coverage; Barry's death meant that the Grungow family would incur added and unexpected expenses; and, ultimately, Barry's death means one less income that can be used to support Pam Grungow and her two children in the years to come.

In Spring 2001, the Florida State Legislature passed and the Governor signed the Barry Grungow Act, a measure that provided death benefits to the spouses and children of victims of school violence. Today, I come to the floor of the House of Representatives to say that it is time for Congress to follow Florida's lead and pass a similar measure.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Teacher Victims' Assistance Act of 2002. Simi-

lar to Florida's Barry Grungow Act, the Teacher Victims' Assistance Act places teachers, school administrators, school employees and school volunteers in the same high-risk category in which we currently place many of country's most important role models.

My bill provides the spouses and children of educators who are killed as a result of school violence with the following death benefits: a one-time death benefit of \$75,000, \$1,500 to be used to assist with any funeral expenses, \$900 per month in living assistance to the victims' surviving spouse, \$225 per month in living assistance to each dependent of the victim until the age of 18, \$7,500 per year, for up to five years, for each dependent to be used to pay for college or other forms of higher education before the age of 25, opportunity to enroll in the Medicare health benefits program, and exempts the family members from having to pay any accumulated income tax by the victim as a result of school employment.

Mr. Speaker, never before has Congress made the historic statement that we need to compensate the families of educators who are victims of school violence. Many of us understand that violence in our schools is virtually impossible to eliminate completely. However, it is possible for Congress to ensure every educator in the country that if another school shooting such as those which occurred at Lake Worth High School, the future of educators' families shall never be in jeopardy.

The Teacher Victims' Family Assistance Act of 2002 makes such a commitment, and I urge my colleagues to pass it immediately.

IN HONOR OF JUERGEN G. KEIL

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Juergen G. Keil. Mr. Keil has recently retired as the Executive Director of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) Division, Newport, Rhode Island after 36 years of dedicated leadership and outstanding service. He was responsible for the overall planning and direction of the scientific and technical activities related to the U.S. Navy's undersea warfare systems. He led the Division in the development of innovative concepts and approaches to address the challenges posed by the post-Cold War undersea warfare and budget environment. Through Mr. Keil's leadership, Division Newport has been transformed into an organization widely regarded as the model of government reinvention, process improvement, and strategic planning.

Mr. Keil, a graduate of Brown University with a degree in Physics, has also served on the staff of Commander, Antisubmarine Warfare (ASW) Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet and as Head of the Undersea Warfare Analysis Department responsible for the formulation and conduct of a broad-based analysis program that assessed the effectiveness of submarines and surface ships in countering undersea threats as well as submarine warfare effectiveness across the full spectrum of their missions. These were instrumental in support of the Los Angeles Class SSN 688 Improvement, the SEAWOLF (SSN 21) and the New Attack

Submarine (NSSN) Programs, as well as the Navy's ASW Weapon and Surface Ship ASW System Programs. Because of his efforts, NUWC Division, Newport's warfare analysis capabilities have been widely praised at all levels within the Department of the Navy and Department of Defense.

Over the years, Mr. Keil has received numerous achievement awards including the Excellence in Management Award from the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 1979. In 1987, he received the Bronze Medal from the American Defense Preparedness Association for his expertise in naval warfare analysis and his outstanding contributions to ASW. In June 1991, he received a Special Act Award for his technical leadership of Congressional mandated study of the Navy's ASNA Weapons Investment Alternatives, and the Decibel Award from NUWC in recognition of his development of a premier warfare analysis organization and for his nurturing an environment of excellence in all the technical disciplines related to underwater warfare analysis. In 1999, he was the recipient of the Department of Navy Superior Civilian Service Award. He was also selected as the recipient of the Society of Women Engineers' 1999 Rodney D. Chipp Award for fostering a positive working environment for women engineers and scientists, and as the recipient of the 1999 Rhode Island Federal Executive Council's Bud Gifford Leadership Award. Additionally, the National Defense Industrial Association named Mr. Keil the winner of the 1999 VADM Charles B. Martell/David Bushnell Award in recognition of his extraordinary leadership in undersea warfare research, development, test and evaluation (RDT&E) and acquisition reform. Most recently, in 2000, Mr. Keil received the prestigious Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award in recognition of his sustained accomplishments, results-oriented leadership, and relentless commitment to public service.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Keil has been a well respected and hard working public servant, as well as a patriot. I am honored to recognize his long and highly accomplished career and his important work as the Executive Director of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Division Newport, Rhode Island. In time-honored naval tradition, I wish Mr. Juergen G. Keil "Fair Winds and Following Seas" as he enters into retirement.

CELEBRATING 12TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in celebrating the 12th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Signed on July 26, 1990, the nation took its first step to incorporate the disabled community back into mainstream America. Armed with 21st century technology and a warmhearted community, these Americans are able to interact smoothly with friends, family and coworkers in factories, office buildings, sports facilities, parks and even on the Internet. This Act has tapped into the full potential of individuals who were often excluded from the rest of the world.

The ADA has opened amazing doors for all people. Buildings, sidewalks and public transportation have become more accessible, allowing for ease in conducting everyday business. The use of screen-readers and voice-recognition software has brought the once unknown world of the Internet to all computer users. No longer will people with impaired vision or dexterity be limited to the available resources. The ADA has given employees with disabilities access to the tools they need to perform their job. Technological advances have been fully integrated into the workplace and I believe society is ready for the work-at-home employee.

As a member of the Bicameral Disabilities Caucus, I am a strong proponent for continued efforts to break down further barriers preventing our disabled community from living healthy, productive lives. With one in five Americans suffering from a debilitating ailment, we have a better understanding for the need to continue supporting both legislation and technology for tomorrow's generation.

Mr. Speaker, the Americans with Disabilities Act had the same impact on disabled Americans in the 1990s as did the Civil Rights Act had on African Americans back in the 1960s. I believe that the will of the people have spoken declaring not to discriminate against any person. With these pieces of legislation side-by-side on the same pedestal, we can observe our constantly changing, and more accepting, country and truly say that we are proud to be Americans.

ON THE PASSING OF NOLAN
HANCOCK

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, sadly I wish to bring to the attention of my colleagues the passing of Nolan Hancock. Many of us have known Mr. Hancock as the former Legislative Director of the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers International Union. Mr. Hancock died this week of a heart attack in West Valley City, Utah. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, four children, fourteen grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

Nolan Hancock was an electrician by trade and an OCAW member for 48 years. For twenty-one years he worked in various local and international positions for the union. He retired five years ago after serving as Legislative Director for the union for 18 years.

Nolan Hancock worked with tremendous ability and integrity on behalf of the members of OCAW and all working Americans. Among the greatest privileges of being a Member of Congress is to work with people of the caliber of Mr. Hancock. I am proud to have known and worked with him.

ONE MORE REASON WHY RELIGIOUS IDEOLOGY SHOULD NOT DRIVE PUBLIC POLICY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, As critics predicted, Bush's goal to make faith-based institutions the primary deliverers of social services has led to them promoting their religious beliefs with government money. Today, the Washington Post reported that a Louisiana federal judge ruled that the state illegally used federal money to promote religion in its abstinence-only sex education programs.

How many more examples do we need before Bush abandons this failed social policy?

JUDGE ORDERS CHANGES IN ABSTINENCE PROGRAM

(By Ceci Connolly)

A federal judge in Louisiana ruled yesterday that the state illegally used federal money to promote religion in its abstinence-only sex education programs, a decision that could jeopardize President Bush's ambitions for expanding the effort nationwide.

U.S. District Judge G. Thomas Porteous Jr. ordered the state to stop giving money to individuals or organizations that "convey religious messages or otherwise advance religion" with tax dollars. He said there was ample evidence that many of the groups participating in the Governor's Program on Abstinence were "furthering religious objectives."

Using government money to distribute Bibles, stage prayer rallies outside clinics that provide abortions and perform skits with characters that preach Christianity violate the Constitution's separation of church and state, he ruled.

One group in its monthly report talked about using the Christmas message of Mary as a prime example of the virtue of abstinence.

"December was an excellent month for our program," the Rapides Station Community Ministries said in a report quoted by the court. "We were able to focus on the virgin birth and make it apparent that God's desire [sic] sexual purity as a way of life."

Gov. Mike Foster (R) expressed dismay over the decision and said he would review the state's legal options.

"It's a sad day when such a worthwhile program is attacked by the very people who are supposed to protect the interests of the citizens of Louisiana," he said.

The suit, filed in May by the American Civil Liberties Union, was the first legal challenge to abstinence-only programs created under the 1996 welfare reform legislation. Bush has asked Congress to extend the \$50 million-a-year program and increase other federal abstinence grants from \$40 million this year to \$73 million next year.

Cities, states or organizations that receive the federal grants must use the money to teach abstinence as the only reliable way to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Supporters say abstinence education helps youngsters build character and develop the skills to "say no to sex." Grant recipients may not discuss contraception, except in the context of failure rates of condoms.

"Today's decision should stand as a wake-up call that this practice is unacceptable," said Catherine Weiss, director of the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project.

The ruling was also a victory for liberals and public health advocates who argue that

abstinence-until-marriage programs are unrealistic and put young people in danger of unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

Abstinence-only "is not a public health program," said James Wagoner, president of Advocates for Youth, which lobbies for broad-based sex education. "This is either ideology or religious instruction trying to pass itself off as public health."

The most recent, detailed analyses have concluded "the jury is still out" when it comes to teaching abstinence, said health researcher Douglas Kirby.

Wagoner called on policymakers to conduct audits of the abstinence programs similar to the current federal investigation of other types of sex education and HIV prevention programs.

Bill Pierce, spokesman for the Department of Health and Human Services, said the administration "remains deeply committed" to both abstinence-only programs and faith-based initiatives.

Weiss and Wagoner said that the misuse of abstinence money went beyond Louisiana and that they had begun to collect evidence of other instances of proselytizing. Many have close ties to the anti-abortion movement, they said.

Three weeks ago, HHS awarded \$27 million in new abstinence grants to numerous organizations with religious affiliations. Weiss acknowledged that it is constitutional to funnel tax money to religious groups as long as the money is used for secular purposes.

During a court hearing last month, Dan Richey, head of the Louisiana program, testified that the state had stopped subsidizing religious activities or overwhelmingly religious groups.

Porteous acknowledged the changes but added, "The Court does, however, feel the need to install legal safeguards to ensure the GPA [Governor's Program on Abstinence] does not fund 'pervasively sectarian' institutions in the future."

TRIBUTE TO NELLIE M. MCKAY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful community activist and dedicated humanitarian. Mrs. Nellie M. McKay will turn 73 years old on July 27th and her birthday is cause for great celebration.

Nellie was born in 1929 to two hard-working parents, Polly and Alex Brown. She grew up with ten brothers and sisters and learned the importance of sharing and support at a young age. Nellie has applied these values throughout her life as a community activist. New York was fortunate enough to become home to Nellie in 1950, when she immediately became a volunteer with the Baby Tracks program at the old Lincoln Hospital in the South Bronx. She also lent her time and energy to the Prosthesis Clinic at St. Luke's Hospital, easing the spirits of patients there. Nellie was a key player in the immunization program at local public schools, which is a crucial initiative for under resourced schools, especially during those times.

Mr. Speaker, Nellie has always been committed to helping those around her and she has also been committed to educating and fostering awareness in those around her. Having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from