

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR GOALS AND IDEAS OF DAY OF TRIBUTE TO ALL FIREFIGHTERS

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 476 and all of America's firefighters, especially those who have died in the line of duty.

As a proud Member of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I think it is fitting and appropriate that we set aside time to pay tribute to our nation's firefighters, men and women who have dedicated their lives so that the rest of us can sleep in peace. The threat of fire and the calamity an actual fire often creates is a day-to-day concern for all our communities, not to mention the added threats of terrorism now confronting us.

In 1992, on behalf of the more than one million firefighters in over 32,000 fire departments nationally, Congress rightly created the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to lead a nationwide effort to remember our nation's fallen firefighters and their families. Since its creation, this foundation has assisted many family members, helping them overcome the loss of their fallen champions. Within hours of the September 11th tragedy, the foundation established a process that used resources from across the country to provide the critical support that members of the Fire Department of New York City and their families needed.

This weekend the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation will honor the 442 firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their communities last year, including those lost in the World Trade Center's disaster. Also to be honored are five firefighters from my state of New Jersey who served with pride and honor and who dedicated their lives to protect others in their communities. Willie Barns, George "June" Danielson, Jr., James T. Heenan, Alberto Tirado, and Lawrence James Webb are New Jersey's fallen heroes. They will be honored for their ultimate acts of valor this weekend. My prayers and the prayers of New Jerseyans everywhere will be with them and their families.

Madam Speaker, our firefighters and emergency personnel who stand at the ready to protect and help us around the clock deserve our support and dedication. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote YES on H. Con. Res. 476.

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, National Public Lands Day was celebrated

across the land—and in Puerto Rico last Saturday, September 28. This is an annual day of caring for our public lands with volunteers doing needed work to improve those special places we go for recreation and enjoyment of the outdoors.

More than 700 volunteers worked in the Caribbean National Forest, known as El Yunque, and at the San Juan National Historic Site. This is the third year Puerto Rico has joined this hands-on effort that is directed by the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation.

El Yunque is the largest block of public land on the island and one of the most popular recreation sites in Puerto Rico. Nearly a million tourists experience this lush tropical rain forest environment each year, recognized as the friendliest and most accessible tropical rain forest in the world. The Toyota Foundation coordinated efforts for an educational clean up activity with teachers and their environments clubs throughout Puerto Rico after having attended a one-day seminar on the importance of conservation of our island and around the world. Keynote speaker was Mario Davila, president of Toyota of Puerto Rico, who told volunteers of Toyota's worldwide commitment to the environment. Volunteers were enthusiastic and said they look forward to next year's National Public Lands Day.

The National Historic Site is the defense fortification that once surrounded the old, colonial portion of San Juan, including sandstone walls dating to the 1630s. Here, volunteers worked in the San Felipe del Morro Fort and on the recently designated trail.

I am delighted that so many were willing to give up a Saturday to join in this largest volunteer, hands-on effort to improve public lands—in Puerto Rico and in all 50 states and Guam.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON MISSING, EXPLOITED, AND RUNAWAY CHILDREN

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the efforts that the President has taken in organizing the White House Conference on Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children. As you know, our country has been especially affected by the seemingly large number of child abductions over the summer. I am proud to say that I am an original co-sponsor of Representatives Frost and Dunn's National AMBER Alert Network Act, which was passed earlier this year by the US Senate.

Mr. Speaker, over 58,000 children were reported missing in 1999 according to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. While this number represents only non-family kidnappings, the anguish that parents and loved ones go through when any child becomes missing is indescribable.

Today, both the House of Representatives and the President took a leap forward in protecting our youth. The Judiciary Committee passed the Child Abduction Prevention Act, which significantly enhances the ability of our nation's law enforcement community to not only find missing children, but also prosecute their abductors. This bipartisan approach will improve the AMBER Alert programs in many states and establish a national coordinator to set up minimum standards for relaying information about abductions in a quick and efficient manner.

The bill also strengthens penalties for violence against children, including automatic first degree murder charges for child abuse and child torture murders, severe penalties for sexual abuse, kidnapping and sex tourism, and a "two strikes you're out policy" mandating life in prison for repeat violators.

Today the President hosted a White House Conference where he announced a new national standard for rapid-response electronic notifications. He also pre-empted Congress by creating a new coordinator at the Department of Justice tasked with improving coordination and cooperation between federal, regional, state, and local law enforcement communities.

I am very pleased the government and private organizations are realizing that they can help prevent kidnappings. On Tuesday, I was happy to hear that AOL will begin using the AMBER Alert system to notify more than 26 million subscribers in states and cities all over the country. This effort is to be applauded by Congress and the country and will hopefully encourage other businesses to begin taking a proactive approach to helping communities solve these crimes early and prevent kidnappings.

Mr. Speaker, while the role of the federal government in preventing these heinous crimes is very important, I must also say that I am proud of the efforts that communities have made. The outpouring of support for the families of those who have lost their children is exceptional. The AMBER Alert system only works when the community is involved. A number of kidnappings were foiled this year specifically because regular citizens paid attention and helped catch criminals.

LEACH-LAFALCE INTERNET GAMBLING ENFORCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 556, the Unlawful Internet Gambling Funding Prohibition Act.

In 1997, there were only 12 illegal Internet gambling sites. Today, there are close to 2,000. Testimonies received during Congressional hearings underscored that children and problem gamblers are the most frequent visitors to online gaming sites. Financial ruination

• 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.

and despair are all too often the results for their families.

Most Internet gambling sites are based in the Caribbean or Central America, beyond the reach of the U.S. Justice Department. It is estimated that the American market generates up to 60 percent of their revenue. The local governments of these jurisdictions are also profiting from online gambling. For example, the Antigua and Barbuda governments are now licensing virtual casinos at a cost of \$75,000 to \$85,000 per site.

While the scourges of gambling addiction are well known, less understood is the fact that Internet gambling poses a serious threat to national security. A recent report by the General Accounting Office emphasized the concerns of law enforcement officials that gambling sites can serve as covers for illegal money laundering by terrorists and organized crime.

Enacting H.R. 556 would give law enforcement officials and bank regulators the necessary tools to crack down on illegal Internet gambling. Banks and credit card companies would be required to block payments to Internet casinos and other gaming operations, and accepting payment for illegal online gambling transactions would be a crime.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this common-sense legislation to help put a stop to illegal Internet gambling for the benefit and protection of American families and businesses.

IN MEMORY OF ROYCE MAGNESS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Mr. Hall of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of a longtime friend and outstanding East Texan, Royce G. Magness of Telephone, Texas, who passed away on August 30 at the age of 76 after a long illness. Royce was a prominent farmer-rancher who owned and operated Magness Farms for almost 50 years, and he was an influential leader in his community.

Royce was dedicated to his vocation and was well-respected for his abilities and his advocacy of farm issues. He was a member of the Fannin County Farm Bureau since 1964 and served as president from 1978 to 1983. He was elected to serve as a Texas Farm Bureau state director from 1983 to 1988, and in 1995, he was honored as one of 13 Texas Farm Bureau Pioneer Award winners from across the state. He was named Fannin County Fanner of the Year in 1988 by the Bonham Area Chamber of Commerce. At his funeral service, it was written that "he believed a man's greatest possession is his dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming . . . He believed that farming, despite its hardships and disappointments, is the most honest and honorable way a man can spend his days on this earth."

Royce was a member of the Telephone Baptist Church, where he served as trustee, deacon, Sunday School teacher, and for almost 30 years as treasurer of the church. He was a charter member of the Fannin County Hospital Board, a member of the Fannin County Peanut Association and the Forest Grove Cemetery Board.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Jean; two sons and daughters-in-law, Jerry and Brenda Magness of Telephone and David and Shirley Magness of Royse City; a daughter, Marilyn Ackmann of Fort Worth; six grandchildren; two great-grandsons; sister Neva Lewis and husband Bob of Lantana, Fla; and many other family members. In his last weeks Royce spent countless hours with members of his family, retelling funny tales and recalling many happy memories of a lifetime spent in Telephone, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, Royce was a man of tremendous character and integrity. He loved his family, his community, his country, and the land on which he farmed—and to each of these he gave so much of himself. He will be missed by all those who knew him and loved him—but he leaves behind a powerful legacy that will endure. As we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of this great American, Royce Glen Magness.

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF AAA NORTHWEST OHIO

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate 100 years of AAA Northwest Ohio. For a century, the company has provided quality service to people throughout its region.

Prior to the formation of AAA, a series of small automobile clubs served the 23,000 automobile owners across the country. In 1902 as more people began to own cars, these clubs formed into the federation American Automobile Association, AAA. In that same year, fifteen Toledoans came together to form the Toledo Automobile Club, later renamed AAA Northwest Ohio. Its first president was Dr. Lewis Liffirin. By 1947 the club boasted 10,000 members. Only 15 years later, in 1962, that number had reached 50,000 and in 1989 the milestone of 100,000 members was achieved. Today, AAA Northwest Ohio is over 150,000 members strong.

With its mission to offer the community "exceptional customer service and diverse member benefits along with a commitment to public safety" AAA Northwest Ohio strives to put the customer first. The association provides roadside emergency assistance, a full service travel and insurance agency, and its unique "triptik" maps for travelers.

I am pleased to recognize the invaluable service AAA Northwest has provided to its customers, and congratulate its employees past and present for a century of dedication and commitment to quality.

HONORING THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION GENESEE VALLEY REGION 2002 HEALTH ADVOCATES OF THE YEAR

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before my colleagues in the United States House

of Representatives to pay tribute to both an outstanding organization, and an outstanding individual in my hometown of Flint, Michigan. Mott's Children's Health Center has been selected as the 2002 Corporate Health Advocate of the Year and Gloria R. Bourdon has been selected as the 2002 Individual Health Advocate of the Year by the American Lung Association of Michigan-Genesee Valley Region. They will be recognized for their achievements at the 2002 Health Advocate of the Year Awards Dinner on October 30th.

Mott Children's Health Center was founded in 1939 by C.S. Mott to "serve borderline medically indigent children of Genesee County." Today they offer a wide array of services including adolescent services, referral programs, child health strategies, pediatric dentistry and school and neighborhood programs for parents, caregivers and their children. Along with direct services, Mott Children's Health Center has also played a vital role in advocating for children's health issues. Mott Children's Health Center sponsors a number of conferences, workshops, and presentations all with the health of children as their number one priority.

Gloria Bourdon began her career in 1987 at Pinconning Area Schools and Linden Area Schools, teaching children the fundamentals of healthy lifestyles. Through the years since then, Gloria has expanded her classroom doctrine of healthy living and today she is the Director of Health, Safety, and Nutrition Services for the Genesee County Intermediate School District. Her job places her in charge of the health of students in 32 public schools, 9 public academies, and 14 private schools. Through her years of hard work and dedication to children, Gloria has received the Genesee County Child Advocacy Award, the Michigan Association of School Boards Health and Safety Award and the Rainmaker Award presented by HealthPlus.

Mr. Speaker it is indeed an honor and a privilege for me to urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to the Mott Children's Health Center, and to Gloria R. Bourdon for their years of dedication to the health and education of our most cherished resource on the planet, our children.

RECLAMATION RECREATION MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I request that the attached letters for H.R. 5460 be submitted for the RECORD under General Leave.

As you know, H.R. 5460 passed the House under suspension of the rules on Tuesday, October 1, 2002. These letters are an exchange between the Committee on Resources with the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Science, concerning the mentioned legislation.