

service in World War II. After the war he began a business venture with his brother, George—George Wholesale Company. He married his wife of 51 years, Angel Kotsiones of Dallas, in 1951, and they had three children.

In 1964 Snooky purchased his brother's interest in the company. His son Danny joined the business in 1977 and later became a partner. In 1998 the father and son team sold the business to free themselves to pursue charitable works. Snooky was very generous to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and the diocese of Tyler. He supported the United Way, American Heart Association, Muscular Dystrophy Association, Catholic Charities, B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, and Alexis de Tocqueville Society. He also supported the East Texas Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, East Texas Crisis Center, Hospice of East Texas, Literacy Council of East Texas and many other agencies.

Snooky won many awards, including the Southwest Candy Merchandiser of the Year in 1984, the National Association of Tobacco Distributors' award in 1991, Southwest Tobacco Man of the Year Award in 1992, America Wholesale Marketers Annual Citizenship award in 1994, National Catholic Charities award in 1995, and the Career Achievement Award of the Southern Association of Wholesale Distributors in 1998. He was also a recipient of a Texas House of Representatives resolution noting the contributions to all the lives he has touched, and he was named an honorary Admiral of the Texas Navy.

He is survived by his wife, Angel; son and daughter-in-law Gerald and Barbara Saleh; daughter and son-in-law Beverly Saleh Mamey and husband Nelson; son and daughter-in-law Danny and Denise Saleh; sisters Evelyn Saleh and Rose Marie Saleh Pilcher; six grandchildren and other family members.

Mr. Speaker, Snooky will be missed by all those who knew him and loved him and by all those he helped and who sought his advice—and his influence will be felt in Tyler for years to come. As we adjourn today, let us do so in tribute to this great American—Jameel Joseph "Snooky" Saleh.

AMBER ALERT: A POWERFUL  
TOOL TO PROTECT KIDS

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the attention of my colleagues to the successes of the AMBER Alert program. As my colleagues know, this is a program that utilizes media alerts to help locate missing children within hours after they are abducted.

When a child is abducted, every minute is crucial. Statistics show that, when abducted, a child's greatest enemy is time. In those critical first hours, the AMBER Alert works to aid in a child's safe return by enlisting the entire community in their recovery.

The AMBER Plan idea was created in 1996 in response to the tragic murder of 9-year-old Amber Hagerman, a little girl who was kid-

napped and killed while riding her bicycle near her home in Arlington, Texas. That tragedy shocked and outraged the entire community. Residents contacted radio stations in the area and suggested they broadcast special "alerts" over the airwaves to help in the future.

Since that time, the AMBER Alert idea has spread across the country. Since the original AMBER Plan was established, 66 modified versions have been adopted at local, regional, and statewide levels; 24 states have a statewide plan. In my home State of New Jersey, Governor James E. McGreevey, together with the Office of the Attorney General and the State Police have been working to implement an AMBER Alert system.

In my own district, we know something about the plague of child abduction. Megan's Law, the law that requires authorities to notify residents when a sexual predator resides in their neighborhood was named after Megan Kanka, a central New Jersey child who was the victim of a ruthless child killer. My predecessor in Congress, Representative Dick Zimmer, worked with Megan Kanka's parents to pass Megan's Law.

I am proud to have recently joined with my colleagues here in Congress, Representative MARTIN FROST and Representative JENNIFER DUNN and other legislators to introduce legislation calling for an expansion of the AMBER Alert concept nationally. Protecting our children against violence is nothing less than a national priority, and we are committed to passing this bill immediately to begin the creation of a nationwide network of AMBER Alert programs.

Unfortunately, passage of an AMBER Alert package into law this year is very much in doubt. Earlier this week, Congress passed legislation that included provisions to promote a national AMBER Alert program. While that would seem to be good news, I'm afraid that passage of this bill may actually delay, not speed up, the implementation of AMBER nationally.

The components that were unnecessarily added to the AMBER Alert Bill had previously been passed as stand-alone bills and I have previously voted in favor of them. On March 14, I voted to pass the "Two Strikes and You're Out Child Protection Act." On May 21 I voted to pass the "Child Sex Crimes Wiretapping Act." On June 25, I voted to pass the "Lifetime Consequences for Sex Offenders Act." And on June 26, I voted to pass the "Sex Tourism Prohibition Act."

A week ago, at the White House Conference on Missing and Exploited and Runaway Children, President Bush called on us in the House to pass the AMBER Alert legislation passed by the Senate. I completely agree with the President. Bipartisan legislation to create a national AMBER Alert System quickly passed the Senate and it should have passed the House and been put into law by now.

Unfortunately, instead of enacting this bipartisan plan to protect kids, House Congressional leaders added all of these other provisions to the AMBER bill, an action that may make it impossible to pass this legislation prior to adjournment because some members of the Senate do not support them. In fact, several of the provisions have been pending in the Senate for over four years without action. The likely result is that we will have no national

AMBER Alert system for at least another year. That is unfortunate and unnecessary. I suspect that the leadership of the House presented the legislation more for the sake of appearance than to actually bring about a national AMBER Alert system.

We in Congress have a chance to do something positive to keep our children safe. I call on all of my colleagues to come together and redouble our efforts to pass AMBER Alert legislation before Congress adjourns next week. We owe it to parents and kids in central New Jersey and the nation.

RECOGNIZING DAVID FLEMING  
FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE  
TO THE PEOPLE OF SOLANO  
COUNTY

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. DOUG OSE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to recognize the Mayor of the City of Vacaville, David A. Fleming, who is leaving office after 24 years of service to his community.

Mr. Fleming was elected to the City Council in 1978 and has served as Mayor since 1990. During his tenure, Mr. Fleming has promoted the city's Growth Management Ordinance, the City of Vacaville Planned Growth Ordinance and the Vacaville/Dixon Greenbelt. He also led fundraising efforts for public art projects celebrating the community's historical milestones.

Mr. Fleming has also served as the President of the League of California Cities, President of the League of California Cities North Bay Division Executive Committee, Chairman of the Solano County Mayors Conference and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Solano County Transportation Agency, the Solano County Water Agency, and the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District.

Mayor Fleming has also been active in civic organizations, including the Air Force Association, the Retired Officers Association, the Napa-Solano United Way Executive Board, the North Bay YMCA Executive Board, the Vacaville Chamber of Commerce, the Vacaville Elks Club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Vietnam Veterans Association, among others. He was also a Charter Member of the Board of Directors of the Travis Air Force Base Museum and currently serves as President of the Travis Air Force Base Jimmy Doolittle Air and Space Museum Education Foundation.

Mr. Fleming has been married for 47 years to his wife, Buff, and they have three sons. Mr. Fleming retired from the Air Force with the rank of Lt. Colonel. He is a Vietnam War combat veteran and earned three Distinguished Flying Crosses for his service to his country.

Mr. Speaker, because of Mayor David Fleming's many contributions to the city, his community and his country, it is proper for us to honor him today.