community at large. A member of numerous Boards of Trustees including the Boy Scouts of America Longs Peak Council and the Denver Zoological Society, Dr. Yates has also served on the Board of Directors of First Interstate Bank of Denver, the Mountain West Conference, Colorado Institute of Technology, and the Denver Branch of the Federal Reserve.

Dr. Yates' immediate plans are to continue to serve as chancellor of the Colorado State University System, following through on his promise to transition the University of Southern Colorado to Colorado State University at Pueblo. He is looking forward to spending more time with his wife Ann and their two school-aged daughters, Aerin and Sadie.

On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, I ask the House to join me in extending congratulations and a sincere thanks to Dr. Albert C. Yates. It is an honor to know such an extraordinary citizen and we owe him a debt of gratitude for his service and dedication to Colorado State University, the State of Colorado and America.

VERIZON TACKLES ILLITERACY

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the efforts of Verizon, its employees and its spokespeople who are working to tackle the problem of illiteracy. Last week, the House Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Education Reform held a hearing on ''Literacy Partnerships that Work.'' The hearing featured actor James Earl Jones and Verizon President and Chief Executive Officer Ivan Seidenberg, testifying on Verizon's efforts to improve literacy in America.

Describing his lifelong love of reading, Verizon spokesman and actor James Earl Jones remarked on how, ''All of us—lawmakers, reading teachers and tutors, corporate philanthropists, educators, and literacy volunteers—all of us have an important and necessary role addressing this issue.''

Testifying about his company's involvement in literacy efforts, Ivan Seidenberg, the President and CEO of Verizon, described how his company's mission is ''highly focused.''

''We work to raise public awareness, create partnerships, and generate financial support for local and national literacy organizations so they can do their jobs more effectively. To use a communications metaphor, we believe that—through our scale, scope, and technology—we can increase the 'bandwidth' of the system and enable more learning to be delivered to more people, more effectively,'' he said.

For Verizon there is a strategic link between literacy and the future business success of the nation's largest communications company with upwards of 240,000 employees in technically demanding jobs.

However, it's more than just for their future employees.

''Verizon's communications networks comprise a unique platform for sharing resources and forming partnerships,'' Seidenberg said. ''Verizon's enormously committed employees and retirees have a long heritage of volunteerism and community involvement. And more than a decade's worth of commitment to the issue of literacy has given the company both the knowledge and the relationships with the literacy community to be effective.''

Also attending the Hearing as Verizon Literacy Champions were CBS Sportscaster Dick Enberg, Mike Kohn, 2002 Olympic Bronze Medal Bobsled Athlete, Chris Thorpe 2002 Olympic Bronze Medal Luge Athlete and Lee Ann Parsley, a resident from the great state of Ohio, the 2002 Olympic Silver Medal winner in the Women's Skeleton competition.

All of these distinguished celebrities attended to demonstrate their great commitment, as well as Verizon's commitment, to providing positive role models in the fight for literacy. Mr. Jones, in his compelling personal testimony, said that: ''In my family, we say the love of reading and book learning is in our bone memory.'' Jones' great-great grandparents Brice and Parthenia Connolly, ''passed on their love of reading to my great-grandfather, Wyatt, who owned a modest library, and encouraged his family to read his books and to revere them.''

Mr. Speaker, this is one of the legacies we hope to leave with H.R. 1—''The No Child Left Behind Act''—to build reading and book learning into the bone memory of all Americans. In these days when there is so much talk about Corporate Accountability, it is a pleasure to recognize Verizon for the positive work they are doing to help the citizens of our Country.

A SCANDINAVIAN PERSPECTIVE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with our colleagues in the US House of Representatives a speech given by the former Norwegian Supreme Court Chief Justice; the Honorable Carsten Smith to the Congressional Friends of Norway Caucus on Thursday, September 26. In his speech Chief Justice Smith outlined a Scandinavian perspective on Constitutional and International Human Rights—a highly relevant topic in light of the post-September 11 era. While the legal development in our country and Europe have not been completely congruent, Chief Justice Smith's thoughtful comments deserve bear examination.

Chief Justice Smith, who has served on the Norwegian Supreme Court from 1987 until his retirement in 2001 and served as the Courts Chief Justice since 1991, has had a distinguished and impressive legal career for close to half a decade, and is considered a legend in the Norwegian legal community.

Carsten Smith, who was born in Oslo in 1932, received his law degree from the University of Oslo in 1956 and earned his doctorate in law shortly thereafter. He is married to Mrs. Lucy Smith, also a distinguished professor of law at the University of Oslo, and they have three children.

Carsten Smith was appointed Professor of Law at the University of Oslo in 1964. During his life-long career at the University, Chief Justice Smith has served in a number of positions. He served as the Dean of the Faculty of Law, and the President of the University of Oslo. Chief Justice Smith has also published a large number of articles and books in the field of international law, constitutional law, administrative and private law. Chief Justice Smith is also the recipient of numerous academic memberships and honors as well as the Commander and Knight of several Orders.

Throughout his career Chief Justice Smith worked tirelessly on advancing the rights of minorities and human rights, and chaired both the Saami Rights Commission and the Commission on Human Rights in Norwegian legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Chief Justice Carsten Smith for his outstanding career in the legal field, and ask that Chief Justice Smith's speech be placed in the RECORD.

SCANDINAVIAN PERSPECTIVE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

(By Norwegian Chief Justice Carsten Smith)

The United States Supreme Court has for a long period been a source of inspiration for European legal thinking, including my own work, even though one may disagree with specific decisions. During my time both as a law professor and as a judge I have eagerly studied literature on this Court, and referred to it so often, that this fact was even commented on by the Attorney General in a public speech on my retirement from the Bench.

The theme today will in the first place be how judicial review of the constitutionality of legislation—a principle created by the US Supreme Court—has taken roots across the Atlantic. Moreover, I shall show how this review in the last decades—and especially the most recent years—has been enlarged to also embrace the conformity of legislation with treaty-based human rights. In the title of the speech the concept of human rights is used to cover constitutional civil rights and liberties as well as international rights and freedoms.

While speaking about judicial constitutional review here in the United States might have the character of preaching to the Pope, the extension of the review of legislation, requiring its compliance with human rights conventions, might be regarded as a further development spearheaded by Europe. One may consider this either as an extension of the original United States constitutional law concept, or as a European development in contrast to American constitutionalism. It concerns the responsibility for implementation of treaty-based human rights on the national arena. The constitutional civil rights and liberties have been supplemented with international human rights and freedoms, and the power to give binding interpretation of the main convention—the European Convention on Human Rights—has been transferred to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

Norway's Constitution of 1814 is the oldest written constitution in Europe still in effect today, probably the second oldest worldwide next to the United States Constitution. The Norwegian practice of judicial review is also the oldest in Europe, perhaps the second oldest worldwide next to the United States practice. The Constitution makes no explicit mention of judicial review, quite in conformity with European constitutional thinking of that period. This review arose—as in the United States—from the practice of the Supreme Court itself.

The United States Supreme Court's decision in Marbury versus Madison represents one of the landmark cases in Western legal thinking. The closest comparable Norwegian decision was a case between a naval officer