

INTRODUCTION OF CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH NA-  
TIONAL INVENTOR'S DAY

**HON. LAMAR S. SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a measure to establish National Inventor's Day as February 11th.

Invention has been a part of our country since it was founded. In fact, today is the birthday of Thomas Edison, who was a great inventor and held over 2,000 patents. He is probably best known for having invented the light bulb, the motion picture camera, and the phonograph. He also discovered incandescent light and invented the electric miner's lamp.

Edison's inventive genius is reflected in many of our other great inventors. Other American inventions include everyday items such as scotch tape, the cell phone, and the sewing machine to technological marvels like the first microprocessor.

I would like to celebrate the inventors of our great country with this resolution.

LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR  
FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF NA-  
TIVE HAWAIIANS

**HON. ED CASE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to cosponsor legislation introduced by my friend and colleague from Hawaii, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, which affirms the longstanding, political relationship between the indigenous people of my state and our federal government and extends the time-honored federal policy of self-determination for indigenous peoples under U.S. jurisdiction to Native Hawaiians. The bill provides for federal recognition of Native Hawaiians, establishes an Office for Native Hawaiian Relations in the Department of Interior, and creates a federal interagency group to better coordinate policies and programs that address Native Hawaiians.

Most Americans are very familiar with the indigenous peoples of the continental United States and the State of Alaska—American Indians and Alaska Natives. But, because of Hawaii's geographical distance from the U.S. mainland and our unique history with the United States, most overlook the fact that an equally indigenous people of our great country—Native Hawaiians—originated and retains their base in today's Hawaii.

U.S. interests in the Hawaiian Islands and contact with Native Hawaiians date back to the late 1700s. Throughout that period, the federal government has maintained a unique relationship with Native Hawaiians—a relationship that was reaffirmed when Hawaii became a territory in 1900 and a state in 1959, and has continued through today.

Over those years, more than 160 federal statutes have enacted programs to address the conditions of Native Hawaiians in areas such as Hawaiian homelands, health, education, and economic development. And in Hawaii, efforts by the state and quasi-autono-

mous entities such as the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and private entities like the Kamehameha Schools have all been devoted to the same ends.

In more recent years, the Congress and Executive Branch have undertaken further efforts to improve the conditions and clarify the political status of Native Hawaiians. Most notably, the enactment in 1993 of the Apology Resolution (P.L. 103–150), which received bi-partisan support in the House and Senate and was signed by President Bill Clinton, expressed a national commitment to reconciliation efforts between Native Hawaiians and the federal government.

In 2000, the Departments of Interior and Justice issued a reconciliation report which was a culmination of efforts undertaken by the departments in their consultations with Native Hawaiians on a broad range of issues. In complementary efforts, Presidents Clinton and George W. Bush also addressed the needs of Native Hawaiians in the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, established by executive orders to increase federal opportunities for and improve the quality of life in these communities.

Federal recognition legislation was a top priority recommendation of these efforts. Its intent was and remains to confirm that a federal policy of self-determination toward Native Hawaiians is appropriate and should be further memorialized.

As a result, federal recognition is Hawaii's single highest priority in our federal efforts. Not only is it the natural next step in a long process of reconciliation for Native Hawaiians, but it is indispensable and necessary to the continuation of Hawaii as we know it.

That Hawaii cannot exist without the survival and prosperity of our indigenous people and culture. Federal recognition is the only practical way to assure the long term viability of the current and future programs and entities which provide for that culture's survival. In both ways, then, we all have a huge stake in federal recognition.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

TRIBUTE TO ANITA ARRIETA-  
ALEJANDRE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of pride that I honor Mrs. Anita Arrieta-Alejandre for helping the Spanish speaking community of Denver, Colorado. She has dedicated herself to preserving and enriching the lives of the people in her community every day.

Anita is a Colorado native who grew up on a farm in Southern Colorado where she worked in the fields with her family. She was determined to graduate from high school with Honors, and she did—through all four years. After graduating from high school, Anita joined the Navy. Now, she is a mother of eight and a grandmother of twelve. Her Mexican heritage is a great source of pride for her. For that reason, Anita has dedicated her life to serving her community, and sharing its rich cultural traditions with others.

Mrs. Arrieta-Alejandre is dedicated to helping the Spanish-speaking population of Denver

assimilate while preserving their important cultural heritage. She believes that it is important for people to assimilate into society, but without losing their cultural identity. By working with individual families she is able to help them in applying for jobs, obtaining drivers licenses, enrolling their children in school, and countless other tasks that are simply impossible without an understanding of English. Over the past twenty years, she has volunteered and worked with more than twenty different organizations that serve the Hispanic community of Colorado. Anita currently owns a Mexican western store, promotes her husband's mariachi band, and directs children's theater for her nonprofit organization Teatro Latino de Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great privilege that I recognize Anita Arrieta-Alejandre before this body Congress and this nation today. Her strong and compassionate actions have helped her community and given people an opportunity to create a life for themselves.

TRIBUTE TO KIMBERLY CANNEDY

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of pride that I honor Mrs. Kimberly Cannedy of Denver, Colorado for her work with the youth of my state. She has devoted countless hours to helping children of Western Colorado, and has committed her life to making a difference.

Mrs. Kimberly Cannedy was born in Denver, Colorado, where over twenty years ago she gave up her high-powered position with Rolls Royce Motors. With this, Kimberly began what she considers the most important work of all: being a mother. Her work does not stop with her own family, but rather it extends into her community. She has opened her doors to numerous foster children over the past ten years. Kimberly, along with her husband of twenty-one years, recently adopted four young girls, and are currently in the process of adopting another. Her growing family includes three children of her own, all between the ages of 15 and 19. In addition to being a foster care provider, Kimberly has assisted many young mothers by teaching classes on parenting and opening her home to those in need of any additional help.

Kimberly believes that if her work reaches and improves the life of one mother or one child, then it is enough. However, her compassionate work has reached many mothers and children alike, and her personal philosophy of helping people through difficult times has reached into and improved the lives of innumerable people whom she has encouraged and helped throughout the years.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great privilege that I recognize Mrs. Kimberly Cannedy before this body of Congress and this nation today. Through her caring actions she demonstrates to us all what it means to be a caring and supportive individual.

## TRIBUTE TO MAREE CHAVEZ

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of honor that I rise to pay tribute to Maree Chavez. Maree has donated countless hours to helping women with cancer in Colorado.

As a child growing up in Colorado, Maree felt like she needed to give back. As she began her career as a hair stylist, Maree organized fundraisers and spent many hours in Craig Hospital cutting the hair of patients who were unable to move. When Maree met a young child who had bone cancer, she was inspired to volunteer for the American Cancer Society. Maree, along with friends and staff, raised more than \$6,000 for the child and her family.

Maree now works with the "Look Good, Feel Better" program, helping women to style their hair, do their make up, and give them a feeling of belonging. She says that by doing this for these women it gives them their "sparkle" back. Although she has been organizing

them for many years, Maree's fundraising efforts have not stopped, they have gotten stronger. This last summer she raised \$3,000 when she ran in the Marine Corps Marathon. All of Maree's hard work to help others comes from her strong and kind spirit, which will continue to help the people of her community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with privilege that I recognize Maree Chavez before this body of Congress and this nation today. Her efforts to help the women of her community have restored their self-image and provided something much more important, their self-esteem.

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 TRIBUTE TO OLLIE MARIE PHASON
**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of pride that I honor Ms. Ollie Marie Phason. Ms. Phason's strength in the face of adversity is a true inspiration. Ollie's life was changed forever in 1993 when her six-year-old son, Broderick, was wounded by a 9mm bul-

let, from gang crossfire. Broderick made a miraculous recovery in three months. Her ability to overcome her shock and sorrow, and in response, make a difference in the lives of others, is truly commendable.

Ollie's response to this tragedy was admirable, as she became highly involved in the Denver Safe City Program. This program was designed to keep children off the streets and involve them in extracurricular activities, which contribute to the well-being of these juveniles. Ollie's active involvement and energy in this issue created new policies to protect and enrich the lives of the children of Denver. As a single mother, her efforts and success in creating positive change within the community are to be greatly commended. In addition to her involvement with the Denver Safe City Program, Ollie currently owns a small pedicure and foot massage business, Marie for Feet, to supplement her income.

Mr. Speaker, it is with privilege that I recognize Ollie Marie Phason before this body of Congress and this nation today. Her four children are fortunate to have such a loving, caring, and dedicated mother. Ms. Phason's efforts to help juveniles succeed in life have been immeasurably beneficial in the lives of many.