

offender will attempt to commit another sex crime, it is reasonable to ask why rapists and child molesters are not simply imprisoned for life?

However, Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that making the AMBER Alert system a Federal program is neither constitutionally sound nor effective law enforcement. All Americans should be impressed at the demonstrated effectiveness of the AMBER system in locating missing and kidnapped children. However, I would ask my colleagues to consider that one of the factors that makes the current AMBER system so effective is that the AMBER Alert system is not a Federal program. Instead, states and local governments developed AMBER Alerts on their own, thus ensuring that each AMBER system meets the unique needs of individual jurisdictions. Once the AMBER Alert system becomes a one-size-fits all Federal program (with standards determined by DC-based bureaucrats instead of community-based law enforcement officials) local officials will not be able to tailor the AMBER Alert to fit their unique circumstances. Thus, nationalizing the AMBER system will cause this important program to lose some of its effectiveness.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1104 also exceeds Congress' constitutional authority by criminalizing travel with the intent of committing a crime. As appalling as it is that some would travel abroad to engage in activities that are rightly illegal in the United States, legislation of this sort poses many problems and offers few solutions. First among these problems is the matter of national sovereignty. Those who travel abroad and break the law in their host country should be subject to prosecution in that country: it is the responsibility of the host country—not the U.S. Congress—to uphold its own laws. It is a highly unique proposal to suggest that committing a crime in a foreign country against a non-US citizen is within the jurisdiction of the United States Government.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation makes it a Federal crime to "travel with intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct." I do not think this is a practical approach to the problem. It seems that this bill actually seeks to probe the conscience of anyone who seeks to travel abroad to make sure they do not have illegal or immoral intentions. Is it possible or even advisable to make thoughts and intentions illegal? And how is this to be carried out? Should Federal agents be assigned to each travel agency to probe potential travelers as to the intent of their travel?

At a time when Federal resources are stretched to the limit, American troops are preparing for imminent military conflict, and when we are not even able to keep known terrorists out of our own country, this bill would require Federal agents to not only track Americans as they vacation abroad, but would also require that they be able to divine the intentions of these individuals who seek to travel abroad. Talk about a tall order! As well-intentioned as I am sure this legislation is, I do not believe that it is a practical or well-thought-out approach to what I agree is a serious and disturbing problem. Perhaps a better approach would be to share with those interested countries our own laws and approaches to prosecuting those who commit these kinds of crimes, so as to see more effective capture and punishment of these criminals in the countries where the crime is committed.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, while H.R. 1104 has some good provisions aimed at enhancing

the penalties of those who commit the most heinous of crimes, it also weakens the effective AMBER Alert program by nationalizing it. H.R. 542 also raises serious civil liberties and national sovereignty concerns by criminalizing intent and treating violations of criminal law occurring in other countries' jurisdictions as violations of American criminal law.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BUZZ  
ZANCANELLA

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 19, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Buzz Zancanella, an outstanding individual who has dedicated his life to serving Glenwood Springs, Colorado. For the past thirty-six years, Buzz has worked in his community, most recently as a water maintenance coordinator. After a long and successful career, Buzz has decided to retire. As he looks forward to retirement, I would like to take this time to highlight his service to his community.

Buzz is a native of Glenwood Springs who graduated from Garfield County High School in 1958 and began serving Glenwood Springs as a volunteer firefighter in 1959. In 1961, Buzz left home to fight for his country, serving honorably in the Navy. It was also at this time that Buzz met his wife, Gracie. When Buzz returned to Glenwood Springs in 1966, he began his long career with the city, working for the city's electric company. Later, in 1977, Buzz became the city's fire chief and remained in that role until 1985 when he began working for the Glenwood Springs Water Department. Buzz is now known as the go-to guy in the city of Glenwood Springs. His service has been much appreciated and he will be truly missed.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to stand and recognize Buzz Zancanella before this Congress and this nation. Public servants work tirelessly to ensure that our communities are run safely and smoothly. Their service and dedication deserves our recognition and thanks. That is why I recognize Buzz Zancanella as he retires from his many years of service to his community. I wish you all the best Buzz.

IN HONOR OF RUTH-E BENNISON

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 19, 2003*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished Californian, Ruth-e Bennison, as she is inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Ruth-e Bennison received a Masters degree in accounting from the University of Washington and worked as an accountant until her marriage in 1956. She later opened her own travel agency, began to travel extensively herself and became the Western Regional Manager for Sheraton Hotels. When her mother became ill and entered a nursing home, she developed a keen interest in long-term care facilities. She became a volunteer in the long-

term care ombudsman program in San Mateo County and she has selflessly dedicated more than 15,000 hours to the program over 15 years. Ruth-e Bennison has also given generously of her time and talents as a HICAP volunteer and has given 5,200 volunteer hours to this agency. She's been honored for her work by the Department of Health and Human Services and was honored with the HICAP Excellence Award in 2002 for saving San Mateo County more than \$5 million in Medicare related expenses.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ruth-e Bennison as she is inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

HONORING CITY OF LIVONIA FIRE-  
FIGHTER OF THE YEAR, FIRE-  
FIGHTER MATTHEW MAURIER

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 19, 2003*

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated Michigan resident, Firefighter Matthew Maurier, recently named City of Livonia Firefighter of the Year. Firefighter Maurier has served the City of Livonia with great pride and courage since 1995.

On September 16, 2002, Firefighter Maurier answered a call to a pedestrian injury accident. Upon arrival, he found a young male patient lying in the roadway who suffered significant head trauma and multiple fractures requiring immediate attention. Realizing the patient's airway was compromised as a result of his injuries, Firefighter Maurier began aggressive intervention to ventilate the patient. Recognizing the patient would require the services of a Trauma Center for definitive treatment, Firefighter Maurier immediately requested a helicopter for transport. This action saved considerable time the patient would not have otherwise had available.

Mr. Speaker, Firefighter Matthew Maurier is a hero to the people of Livonia, Michigan and the United States. I extend my sincere appreciation to him for making our community a better place.

THE NORTH MYRTLE BEACH  
BILLBOARD EFFORT

**HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 19, 2003*

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and praise the actions of the North Myrtle Beach Republican Club. Their efforts to raise community support and money to erect billboards around their city to show support for President Bush and the American soldiers stationed in the Middle East have been outstanding. The diverse group of community members, comprised of business owners, attorneys, doctors, retirees, and elected officials, have come together under the direction of Ms. Cleo Steele to respond to the numerous anti-American protests held world wide, nationally, and even in the community of