

United Kingdom, and political party leaders representing Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland.

The requested \$25 million over the next five years will go a long way to carry out the accords of the Good Friday agreement. A large part of this effort is for programs that enhance relations between communities and between the police and the communities they serve, promote human rights training for police, and promote training programs to enhance the new district partnership police boards recommended by the Patten Commission.

Successive U.S. Administrations and the U.S. Congress have seen economic development as key to fostering peace in Northern Ireland. Support for the paramilitaries has been strongest in the communities suffering the highest level of unemployment and economic deprivation; thus, many see the creation of jobs and economic opportunity as on par with working out a political solution to the conflict in Northern Ireland. Critics of U.S. assistance to the region argue that the European Union, not the United States, is the appropriate source of aid and further that private investment, rather than aid, is central to job creation. Supporters of the aid program, including many Members of Congress, see aid and investment as complementary, with aid often serving as a good catalyst for investment. Mr. Speaker, I am a strong supporter of the aid program.

Mr. Speaker, all major social and economic indicators show that Catholics in Northern Ireland are disadvantaged relative to Protestants. The most persistent area of inequality has been employment. Catholics experience rates of unemployment over twice as high as Protestants, and Catholics are more likely than Protestants to experience long-term unemployment.

The British government sees inward investment and the creation of employment opportunities, linked to its fair employment legislation, as the best antidote to Catholic unemployment. Others believe implementation of the Mac Bride Principles would provide an important remedy. Introduced in 1984, the Mac Bride Principles are nine equal opportunity/affirmative action principles, intended to promote employment options for members of underrepresented religious groups in Northern Ireland. Among other things, the Principles call for provocative religious or political emblems to be banned from the workplace; for all job openings to be publicly advertised with special recruitment efforts to attract applicants from underrepresented groups; and for adequate security at the workplace.

For years, the British and Irish governments sought a formula that would facilitate a peaceful settlement. After many ups and downs, the British and Irish governments and the eight parties participating in peace talks announced agreement on a political settlement on April 10, 1998. The agreement recognizes the consent principle, namely, change in the status of Northern Ireland can only come about with the consent of the majority of its people. Voters in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland approved the accords in referendums held on May 22. Elections to the new Assembly took place on June 25.

Mr. Speaker, the implementation of the peace agreement has been difficult. I applaud the efforts of leaders in the United Kingdom, Ireland, and Northern Ireland for their efforts in

furthering peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE
REFORM ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD H. BAKER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 522) to reform the Federal deposit insurance system, and for other purposes:

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Chairman, after considerable work by Chairman OXLEY and Mr. BACHUS, the House of Representatives is once again considering legislation to reform Federal deposit insurance. This is important legislation that will have an impact on our constituents and our economy.

As I stated last year, I am concerned about the potential effects of possible FDIC actions to develop and implement risk-based assessment standards under sections 4 and 7 of the legislation. My concern is that the FDIC may give excessive weight to Federal Home Loan Bank advances in the assessment process so that insured institutions with certain amounts or percentages of such advances would be classified as more risky and, therefore, pay higher deposit insurance premiums.

My concern arises from the FDIC's report on deposit insurance reform, issued in April 2001, which indicated that, under a risk-based assessment system, the FDIC could use a sample risk "scorecard" that would result in institutions with increased amounts of FHLB advances paying higher risk-based insurance assessments.

In my opinion, the use by the FDIC of risk-based assessment authority in this way would be contrary to Congress's clear intent to broaden access to FHLB advances in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley act of 1999. In the Gramm-Leach-Bliley act, we wanted to ensure that community institutions and housing lenders would be able to obtain adequate, reasonably priced FHLB advances as a source of funds to serve the borrowing needs of their customers. Providing this source of liquidity may actually reduce risk. I would anticipate, should the FDIC place undue weight on FHLB advances for its risk-based assessment system, the agency will likewise account for the risks associated with depository institutions holding U.S. agency debt and securities.

As the principal House sponsor of the FHLB provisions in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley act, I will follow very closely the FDIC's implementation of any new risk-based assessment standards to ensure such standards do not adversely affect the prudent use or cost of advances.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2003

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 3, I had surgery to correct an injury I sus-

tained during a bicycle accident in November 2002.

As a result of this surgery, I was unable to cast my vote on the supplemental appropriations bill that the House considered on that day. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 103; I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 104; I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 105; I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 106; I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 107; and I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 108.

H. RES. 137 AND THE IMPORTANCE
OF TITLE IX

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2003

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, one of our nation's most vital and successful programs for equal opportunity for women has been under review. Rod Paige, Secretary of Education, recently assembled a commission to investigate the effectiveness of title IX in the Civil Rights Act. The mandate of the "Commission on opportunity in Athletics" is to investigate ways to enforce title IX efficiently.

The Commission has concluded its investigation and issued its findings. Secretary Paige said that all of the recommendations to which the Commissioners initially agreed would be treated as "consensus" recommendations. The minority report, filed by commissioners and former Olympians Donna de Varona and Julie Foudy, strongly disagree with two specific Commission recommendations, and express serious concerns about the others.

The dissenting Commissioners strongly believe that many of the Commission's "consensus" recommendations are worded so ambiguously that they could be interpreted in such a way as to undermine equal participation opportunities and scholarship dollars for women, as well as other title IX protections. Without clarification, say these distinguished athletes, there is no true "consensus" with in the Commission.

I find it troubling, Mr. Speaker, that the minority report is not included in the Commission's report, thus excluding the serious objections raised by some during deliberation of the Commission. Secretary Paige submitted the majority report alone—without first discussing his decision with the Commission. Not surprisingly, a number of those on the panel have expressed their unease about the lack of a final meeting. They are concerned that areas of genuine consensus in the report have not been identified, and I certainly share their concerns.

I am a long time supporter of title IX and the opportunities it creates for women. I am a co-sponsor of H. Res. 137, a bipartisan resolution to maintain the integrity of title IX of the Civil Rights Act. This resolution sends the message that we are committed to protecting title IX, and that the fight to save title IX is not over.

Over 70 percent of the country supports title IX in its current form. With such overwhelming support, we must recommit to enforcing the current standards. While gender equality in athletics still does not truly exist, we have taken great strides over the first 30 years

since the enactment of title IX. Girls' high school athletic participation increased by 847 percent, and women's college athletic participation increased four fold. This progress was achieved even though two dollars are spent on men's collegiate sports programs for every dollar spent on women's collegiate sports programs.

Title IX is a basic question of equality. Equality of opportunity should not be compromised. I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 137.

HONORING LEE GILES ON THE
OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2003

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the end of the era for Indianapolis, with the end of the long and exciting career of an Indianapolis broadcasting giant, Lee Giles.

These are times of trial for our nation. As is our country's custom, in circumstances like these we turn our faces steadily toward television, our window on the world, watching the events of far away, days of desperation and long nights of noise on parade through our living rooms. In those hours as we celebrate the devotion and the valor of our armed forces, we celebrate again the tremendous service television does to inform and link the people.

And Lee Giles, retiring next month as News Director of WISH TV, Channel 8, in Indianapolis and central Indiana, after forty years at the station, has witnessed history's march, at home in our city and the world around. 1963, his first year of service in Indianapolis, was marked by the loss of John F. Kennedy. Then came the war in Vietnam. 1968, the year he became news director at WISH, we lost Dr. Martin Luther King, and Bobby Kennedy, too. Other tragedies and other wars, intermixed with events of excitement and celebration, followed in full flow.

Many have been the events—happy and sad—that he witnessed and helped to distill and project to our community during this full career. And, throughout those years his work has been underscored by extra service to the profession: on the Society of Professional Journalists/Jane Pauley Task Force on Mass Communication Education and the faculties of Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis and Butler University. At the same time, his life has been punctuated by professional honor: induction into The Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame and receipt of the Radio and Television News Directors Foundation's First Amendment Service Award.

Mr. Speaker, it is ever vital that we recognize, celebrate and honor those whose accomplishments are an inspiration to all. Lee Giles' long and steadfast service to broadcasting, to the vital news center of that art and to his community, has been a life of true professional distinction. Let us render Lee Giles a special salute on the occasion of his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO BOB FAUL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 7, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George Faul, a dedicated and exceptional educator and military serviceman who served the Monterey Peninsula for over four decades. George, who was always known as Bob to his friends and family, passed away March 29, 2003 at the age of 84.

Bob and I have been neighbors and friends for years. Anyone who has lived in the close-knit community of Carmel, CA, where I was raised and still live today, can speak to the feeling of community that exists there. Through his work, many advances have been made towards providing students from all backgrounds with quality education throughout Monterey County.

Bob began his educational service shortly after World War II, traveling to community colleges to help them gain accreditation. At that time, the California community college system was growing fast to meet the demands of our returned soldiers, sailors and marines, and Bob saw a chance to make a difference. It was during his time as a guidance counselor at the College of the Sequoias in Visalia that he met his wife Pat, who has also been an active community member. Pat served for many years on the board of the Monterey Airport, and was always involved in the daily life of the students and faculty at Monterey Peninsula College. As the longest-serving president of Monterey Peninsula College, Bob immediately saw a need for greater outreach to students from underserved populations and set about creating those networks.

His service in the military during World War II helped instill that sense of public service, a feeling that he carried with him his entire life. Besides being president and a member of the board of trustees for the college, Bob served on the boards of many local organizations such as the Community Foundation for Monterey County, the Monterey Museum of Art, the Monterey Jazz Festival, the Carmel Bach Festival, Circle Theater and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Faul was an exceptional person, and I am proud to be able to honor him in this way. He and his wonderful wife Pat have been outspoken and energetic community members, and I wish to express my condolences to her and their son Robert on Bob's passing.

EMERGENCY WARTIME SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2003

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 1559) making emergency wartime supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes:

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. I rise in opposition to the Cunningham amendment. I am acutely aware that many of my colleagues feel that it's "pay-back" time for our ally, Turkey. But I believe that such a course would be unproductive and unwise. The relationships that exist between and among nations are, in many ways, as those which exist with our neighbors. There are times when we may take a course of action with which our friends will not agree; sometimes we may do something to anger our good neighbors and friends. But we don't run away from our friends of many years, or our neighbors who have been with us through thick and thin. Mr. Chairman, the relationships we have with our friends and neighbors are important and it is necessary that we act in ways to maintain these important relationships. Our former distinguished Secretary of State, George P. Shultz, has called this gardening. This diplomatic process is vitally important to us as a nation. Our relationship with Turkey falls within this category. America may be indispensable, but her powers are not without limits.

Mr. Chairman, Turkey is an important strategic ally of the United States. During the last 50 years, Turkey has stood shoulder to shoulder with the United States in nearly every major conflict. From the Korean war to our involvement in Bosnia, Turkey has been by our side. On March 1, Turkey demonstrated that she is a democracy, even while her actions did not please many of us in this body. While we may disagree with the outcome of the process, we must respect her democratically taken decision. Turkey is a predominantly Muslim country with a secular, democratic government. Turkey is a country that has one foot in the East and another in the West; since September 11, 2001, her importance to the United States has increased.

There are a number of important foreign policy issues that join our two countries in a unique relationship. Turkey's long border with Iraq has obvious importance in the current conflict with Iraq. Turkey's role will be important also in the peace and rebuilding stages of Iraq. During the Bosnia campaign, Turkey demonstrated her expertise in civic action as she helped rebuild needed infrastructure in that country. This country is in a position to play a key role in our efforts to rebuild Iraq.

Mr. Chairman, beyond the crises of the moment, there are other reasons that it's very important that we support this country. Turkey is with us in the war on terrorism. Turkey is playing a major role in Afghanistan, where it assumed command of the international peace-keeping force. Turkey is a key NATO member. Her geographic location provides regional security to a critical part of the alliance. Turkey is striving for European Union membership, and United States policymakers support that goal to anchor Turkey in the West. Turkey as a part of the European Union becomes an even stronger ally of the United States.

The United States has encouraged the development of Turkey's ties to Israel since 1996. Turkey and Israel have concluded important arms and water deals, and their relationship, which is based on mutual self-interest, has withstood differences over the years. It is important to note that other Muslim countries are now taking views toward Israel that are close to those of Turkey, who has led the way.