

and it finally sets a deadline for old plants to install modern pollution controls. The Act allows for emissions trading to increase flexibility and reduce costs, where trading won't cause environmental harm. And the Clean Smokestacks Act promotes cost-effective energy efficiency and renewable energy measures, which help reduce pollution and save consumers money.

This approach just makes sense. Because these power plants are so old and so dirty, cleaning them up provides tremendous benefits at reasonable costs. These requirements are one of the cheapest ways to get significant air quality improvements. And they finally provide a level playing field for new and old plants.

At the same time, this approach gives industry the benefit of increasing regulatory certainty by targeting all four pollutants at once. Industry can make better investments if it knows what all of the emissions requirements will be over the next decade or so.

Finally, the Clean Smokestacks Act recognizes that we need cleaner air, not regulatory relaxation, so it leaves the current Clean Air Act in place.

Since we first introduced this bill, the President has unveiled a competing proposal, the "Clear Skies Initiative" or CSI, which he claims targets the same goal of cleaning up power plants. It's important to recognize, however, that the Clean Smokestacks Act and CSI are not similar proposals with different levels of stringency. Rather, they have fundamentally different purposes.

The Bush Administration claims that their CSI proposal also targets the problem of aging power plants and provides certainty to the industry. It does neither, but it does rewrite significant portions of the Clean Air Act to weaken or delete important environmental protections.

In contrast to the Clean Smokestacks Act, the CSI proposal does not guarantee that all outdated power plants will ever install modern air pollution controls. And, because CSI does not address carbon dioxide emissions, it cannot promise to provide the industry with certainty regarding future federal or state emissions reductions requirements.

What CSI does do is rewrite key provisions of the Clean Air Act. CSI would repeal a requirement to reduce mercury emissions, limit the rights of states to protect themselves against out-of-state pollution, extend deadlines for areas to achieve clean air, and weaken protection for national parks, among other rollbacks. The real purpose of CSI appears to be weakening current Clean Air Act requirements for power plants and other sources, under cover of some looser and later emissions requirements. Not surprisingly, CSI is supported by industry, but is almost universally opposed by environmental groups.

So let there be no mistake—the Clean Smokestacks Act in the House, and the Clean Power Act in the Senate, are the proposals to strengthen the Clean Air Act by finally closing the loophole for old dirty power plants and addressing all four pollutants they emit.

In conclusion, let me commend Rep. BOEHLERT and all of the supporters of this legislation. I am pleased to be part of this bipartisan, bicameral approach to strengthening the Clean Air Act and protecting our environment.

TRIBUTE TO PAULA J. PETERSON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paula J. Peterson, the Monterey District Park Superintendent for California Department of Parks and Recreation. She is retiring after more than 30 years of dedicated service with the State of California, and in recognition thereof, she is deserving of special public recognition and the highest commendations.

Paula attended Chico State University where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Recreation Administration in 1971, and a Master of Arts degree with distinction in Recreation Administration in 1977. She then embarked on her distinguished state service career with the California Department of Parks and Recreation in 1972 as the first full-time, female civil service State Park Ranger in the history of California at Big Basin State Park in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Based on her experience and performance, she continued to receive be promoted through ranks, ultimately attaining her current position.

Paula Peterson has played a lead role in interpreting and protecting the cultural and natural resources of California. Her outstanding leadership and organizational skills have touched the entire state park system.

Paula was responsible for the first publication of the "Defensive Tactics for Instructors" handbook in 1980. She coordinated the first Hispanic Heritage Week observance in Monterey in 1990. She received the 1996 Monterey District Safety Award after leading and maintaining an excellent District safety program. She was the recipient of the Department's 1999 Olmsted Award for Leadership and Vision based on her ability to motivate and inspire others to positive action; and her long-term commitment to park ideals and values.

Paula blazed the trail for other woman in the peace officer ranks within the State Park System and has been a positive and strong role model. She is commended for her extraordinary commitment and dedication and represents the highest ideals of the State Park professional.

Mr. Speaker, in the course of their careers, few people are fortunate to be associated with an individual whose personal and professional accomplishments have been an inspiration to so many. Because of Paula Peterson, I can count myself among the fortunate.

**OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS,
FIRST CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the following high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These students have excelled during their academic careers and proven themselves to be exceptional students and

leaders with their scholastic achievements, community services, and participation in school and civic activities. It is my pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments. Their parents, their teachers, their classmates, the people of New Mexico and I are proud of them.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD WINNERS 2003
Katelynn Florentino, Freedom High School.

Chelsea Knepper, Manzano High School.
Victoria Soto, St Pius X High School.
Jodieleigh Sierbert, Rio Grande High School.

Travis Green, Sandia Prep High School.
Darlene Lopez, Albuquerque Charter Vocational School.

William Wainslow, Eldorado High School.
Jonathan Berch, Estancia High School.
Emily Frances Clauss, Albuquerque Academy.

Jessika Cremer, La Cueva High School.
Sharada Bean, Albuquerque High School.
Laura Thompson, Southwest Secondary Learning Center.

Julian Gomez, Los Lunas High School.
Monica Maestas, Valley High School.
Renee Giraudo, Cibola High School.
Finola Perry, New Futures School.
Taylor Kidwell, Hope Christian School.
Natalie Irene Mora, West Mesa High School.

Roseamond Stewart, Del Norte High School.

Brittany Allcorn, Moriarty High School.
Elisha Lovato, Bernalillo High School.

Joseph McCarthy, Hope Connection High School.

Ashley Ellison, Nuestros Valores Charter High School.

Marcus Romero, Mountainair High School.
Kaycee Kloeppel, Highland High School.

Paul Tafoya, Sierra Alternative High School.

Katherine Dahl, Cibola High School.
Dominic Montoya, Albuquerque Evening High School.

Catherine Sandoval, Menaul School.
Milessa Muchmore, Sandia High School.

Amber Marquez, Evangel Christian Academy.

**CONGRATULATIONS WESTERN
KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY'S WIL-
LIAM E. BIVEN FORENSIC SOCI-
ETY**

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Western Kentucky University's William Biven Forensic Society as its members celebrate their national and international championships.

The students and coaches have had an extremely successful year, winning the International Forensic Association Championship, the 2003 American Forensic Association National Championship, the Delta Sigma Rho—Tau Kappa Alpha National Championship and, most recently, the National Forensic Association Individual Events Championship. Western's forensics' program has a legacy of championships, and this year's team has again debated its way to the top.

This evening at Western, the students will present some of their award-winning performances. I hope they enjoy this opportunity to