

Championships and three State Championships in football. His team also won the Delta Valley Conference Football Championship. At the time of his retirement, Rosedale High School held the state record for the most consecutive wins.

Mr. Young also led the track team to a State Track Championship in 1983. He won the "DVC Track Coach of the Year" award in 1983 and the "State Track Coach of the Year" award the same year.

Mr. Young was inducted into the Delta State University Alumni Coaches Hall of Fame in 1999 and the Mississippi High School Coaches Hall of Fame in 2001. The Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity awarded him in 2001 with a plaque for distinguished service rendered in the field of sports. He was the 2002 Bolivar Commercial Coach of the Year and was in The Bolivar Commercial Quarter Century Club in 2000. He was also Co-Coach of Year for the Delta Democrat Times in 2002.

He was an avid golfer and outdoorsman. He was a member of the Delta State University Athletic Alumni Association, Mississippi Association of Coaches, Donaldson Point Hunting Club, Rosedale Country Club and Rosedale Methodist Church. Mr. Leland Young will be dearly missed by his community.

#### INTRODUCING THE CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES WORKFORCE IMPROVEMENT

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Child Protection Services Workforce Improvement Act. This bill is aimed at helping states improve their child protection services through grants and assistance that allow them to expand and enhance their child welfare workforce.

Many State child protection agencies are the last line of defense in caring for abused and neglected children. Today, these agencies are suffering from staffing problems that have been compounded by budget cuts and inadequate funding. The result in many cases is a failure to meet the needs of the most vulnerable children in our society.

I am sure that many of my colleagues have seen in their local newspapers or heard of a case where a child was severely abused or killed because a child protection agency ignored dangers posed to a child by their foster family or adoptive parents. Just look at the case of Indiana. A total of 70 kids died there from abuse and neglect in July 2001 to July 2002—this was a new State record. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Service Children Family and Service Review found that the cause of this was in part due to the state child protection agencies failure to sufficiently reduce incidences of repeated mistreatment. It also warned that state budget cuts will further impact Indiana's limited ability to track such incidences.

In Colorado, State budget cuts have reduced the size of foster care review teams to the point that the State won't be able to meet federal requirements that foster children be checked on at least twice a year. In Arizona, budget cuts there have led to 32 percent of

children in State custody being stuck in temporary placements for over 2 years. In South Carolina, some 500 positions in the State's social service agency—many involving child welfare—have been zeroed out. The same is true for many other States. There is no question that States need federal help to improve their ability to help and care for children in need.

These nationwide problems are why I am introducing the Child Protection Services Workforce Improvement Act. It provides States with \$500 million in matching grants over 5 years to improve these services where it is needed most: Increasing the number of qualified child welfare workers. States can use these matching grants for their private and public child welfare agencies to: Reduce the turnover and vacancy rate of child welfare agencies, increase education and training of child welfare workers, attract and retain qualified candidates and coordinate services with other agencies, improve child welfare workers' wages, and increase the number of child welfare workers.

To retain qualified child welfare workers, my bill also allows student loan forgiveness for those who have been with an agency for at least two years. In order to improve the availability of quality services, this legislation provides a 75 percent federal match to pay for training of private child welfare workers, which is the same match rate provided to public child welfare agencies. My bill also allocates funding for child welfare agencies to provide short-term mental health training to caseworkers.

A recent General Accounting Office (GAO) report found that child welfare workers are leaving the child welfare profession because of low wages, risk of on the job violence, staff shortages, high caseloads, administrative burdens, lack of support from supervisors, and lack of proper training for child welfare workers and their supervisors.

The high turnover rate and high caseloads of child welfare workers limits the ability and efficiency of agencies to investigate and solve problems of child abuse and neglect. For instance, the study found that the above staff problems: Provides insufficient time for remaining staff to establish critical trusting relationships with the families and children which are important to make the necessary decisions to ensure safe and stable permanent placements; delays the timeliness of child abuse and neglect investigation; limits the frequency of worker visits with children who are the victims or alleged victims of child abuse or neglect; and hampers agencies' attainment of some key federal goals of ensuring the safety of children and placing them in permanent homes either through adoption, kinship care or reuniting them with their families.

The Child Welfare League of America, the Alliance for Children and Families, the National Association of Social Workers, the Lutheran Services in America and the Catholic Charities of America have endorsed this bill. These organizations understand the needed support this legislation will provide State efforts to help abused and neglected children.

Please join with us in supporting the Child Protection Services Workforce Improvement Act and provide much needed financial resources to our child welfare workforce to protect the most vulnerable children in our society. Congress has a responsibility to respond to this urgent need.

RECOGNIZING SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE OF SEQUENCING OF HUMAN GENOME AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR GOALS AND IDEALS OF HUMAN GENOME MONTH AND DNA DAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2003*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. Speaker, let me join in with the gentleman from Florida and the gentleman from Ohio for their wisdom in bringing this legislation to the floor, and certainly to the gentlewoman from New York, who I enthusiastically join, along with the gentleman from Louisiana and the gentleman from Michigan on this important legislative initiative.

H. Con. Res. 110 is a resolution that helps to educate our colleagues but also it speaks truth to the American people, and gives due recognition to a great accomplishment for humankind. As a member of the House Committee on Science, we spent many, many hours on the question of the human genome and the Human Genome Project in particular. Sequencing of the human genome as one of the most significant scientific accomplishments of the past 100 years and expressing support of the goals and ideals of the Human Genome Month and DNA Day really is a statement about life.

It is a statement about the ability of the new science to be able, Mr. Speaker, to understand life, to help us understand where we came from, and how we fit into the world. It will also create improved health where that was not a possibility 10, 15, or 50 years ago.

It is crucial as the human genome project achieves its goal, and the essential completion of the reference sequence of the human genome carrying, that we begin to put our new knowledge to work. This has been a great investment, and the payoffs should benefit all of the American people. However, we must move thoughtfully and cautiously. One of the challenges that we have in this Congress is the whole question of human cloning. It is important not to equate these projects—research on the human genome DNA with the idea of the creation of a human being. We can have one without the other. We should not be so afraid of creating monsters, that we do not attempt to create cures.

It is important now as we have begun or understand the sequence that we allow this project to grow and to be utilized to help us determine the cures for diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, stroke, and yes, HIV/AIDS. The more we understand about the human being and its makeup, the more we can create a better way of life.

We well know of our renowned fictional character Superman. Christopher Reeves, who was the embodiment of the man of steel, has become a different kind of superman today. He may be in a wheelchair, but he is still making great bounds, trying time after time with a number of efforts to find the cure for those who suffer spinal injuries, some of the most devastating injuries that we will face. As we look to the wounded who will be coming home from the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, they will be coming home with major injuries, some continuing to be life-threatening.

The greater knowledge of our ability to be able to respond to those kinds of devastating injuries, physical injuries through weapons, the better off we will be. The more we can find a way to determine and fight against the war against bioterrorism, the better off we will be. Advances in these and many other fields will hinge on our ability to understand and manipulate the human genome and its products. That is why the Human Genome Project was such a great accomplishment, and why we should continue to draw attention to this critical research through Human Genome Month and DNA Day.

This is an excellent resolution, Mr. Speaker, because it educates my colleagues and educates the public.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to business in my district, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present I would have voted: No. 244—"no"; No. 245—"no"; No. 246—"yes"; No. 247—"yes"; No. 248—"yes."

#### TRIBUTE TO THOMAS N. JACOBSON

### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Thomas N. Jacobson, who recently won the Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award for service to our community. Mr. Jacobson is an individual of great distinction, and we join with family and friends in honoring his remarkable achievements and expressing pride in this recognition that has been afforded to him.

Thomas is a remarkable individual who has devoted his life to helping people throughout his community. His kindness and passionate spirit render him a vital resource to his congregation and beloved community member.

For the past 25 years, Thomas has dedicated himself to the Congregation Emanu El, serving as Commission Chair, Legal Counsel, member of the Board of Managers of the Home of Eternity Cemetery, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and President. In these capacities, he has been an integral contributor to the management and administration of Congregational affairs, as well as a participant in raising crucial funds for the Congregation.

In addition to these contributions, Thomas has been a partner in the firm of Gresham, Savage, Nolan & Tilden, receiving the highest possible evaluation of his profession for integrity and performance, and has taken a proactive approach to leadership in the community.

Through his participation in countless activities and committees, Thomas has exhibited kindness, love, humility, and a deep resolve to ameliorate all aspects of community life, so it is only appropriate that he receive Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award.

I join today with his wife, Lorie, and his daughters, Jolene and Gretchen, in their joy at this wonderful honor he has received. He is a symbol of all that is good in his profession and an inspiration to his community.

And so, Mr. Speaker, we salute Thomas N. Jacobson. We express admiration he has received this wonderful and well-deserved honor and hope that others may recognize his good works in the community.

REMEMBERING MR. ALDO PINESCHI, SR. OF ROSEVILLE, CALIFORNIA

### HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to remember and honor an outstanding citizen, Mr. Aldo Pineschi, Sr., from the City of Roseville, California. Following a lifetime of dedication to family and community, Aldo Pineschi passed away on May 30, 2003. He was 79 years old.

After his parents emigrated from Northern Italy and settled in Chicago, Aldo was born in the Windy City in 1924. Three years later, the Pineschi family relocated to Roseville, which would remain Aldo's home for the rest of his life. Shortly after graduating from Roseville High School in 1942, he served in the United States Army during World War II in England and France. He returned home in 1945 and wed Claire Bertolucci a year later.

Aldo began his professional life by going to work for the Pacific Fruit Express (PFE) railroad just as his father did. During the nearly 20 years he was with PFE, he also helped raise his four children and attended college. He first attended Placer College (now Sierra College) and eventually completed his degree at California State University, Sacramento. He then went to work for Aerojet for several years.

In 1965, Aldo became the Personnel/Purchasing Manager for the City of Roseville. Then, from 1970 until his retirement in 1980, he served as Roseville's Assistant City Manager. In this capacity, he helped set the stage for Roseville's transformation from a once-sleepy railroad town to what is now a vibrant, well-planned community with award-winning parks, law enforcement, and city management. The City is also home to nationally-recognized, high-performing public schools. Its railroad past blends with its newer high-tech industry and thriving commercial centers. Its residential areas include dynamic new developments as well as historic neighborhoods. In short, Mr. Speaker, Roseville is a model community with a high quality of life and a bright horizon, and Aldo's vision and hard work are a large part of the reason why.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Aldo left a legacy of volunteer service. Many remember his years-long participation with the George Buljian Cooking Crew, a group of community leaders headed by a former mayor, who helped raise over one million dollars for local charities by serving up steak dinners.

Aldo also played an active role in shaping local politics, helping to elect numerous candidates to local offices. In the late 1950s he

himself served on the Roseville Joint Union School District Board of Trustees. He also made a run for the California State Senate, and in 1962, fell just 78 votes shy of becoming Placer County Clerk. His involvement in and discussion of politics was one of his loves.

However, his truest love remained his wife of 57 years, Claire. She survives him, along with their four children and seven grandchildren. These include daughter Leah and son-in-law Mario; son Alan and daughter-in-law Susan; son Aldo, Jr. and his wife Lesli; son Neil; and grandchildren Howard and Gina Gibson; Matt, Michael, and Alina Pineschi; and Evangeline and Anthony Pineschi.

Today, I join with Aldo Pineschi, Sr.'s family, friends, and community to commemorate his life of committed service, good citizenship, and uncommon decency. May he rest in peace.

IN RECOGNITION OF VIC SOOD ON HIS SERVICE TO THE LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Vic Sood, General Manager of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), as he prepares to retire after 32 years of service in public transportation. For his unyielding commitment and dedication to running what has become one of the most effectively operated transit agencies in the entire Bay Area region, I would like to thank my good friend Vic Sood. The skillful craftsmanship of his work will endure far into the future.

Before moving to California, Vic Sood made many contributions to the public in the state of Washington. He was responsible for getting transit legislation passed into law in 1974 and 1975, which allowed for the formation and financing of new public transit systems, known as Public Transit Benefit Areas.

In September 1976, Vic Sood was appointed to serve as the first Executive Director of Community Transit after voters in Snohomish County, Washington, approved a sales tax increase to finance the Snohomish County Public Transit Benefit Area Corporation in June of that year. As a result of the legislation which he had labored to get passed, many new transit agencies were likewise created throughout the state of Washington.

While Executive Director of Snohomish County Community Transit, Vic Sood also served as President of the Washington State Transit Association in 1982 and 1983 and served as a regional representative to the American Public Transit Association's (APTA) Board of Directors in 1983 and 1984.

Subsequent to the formation of LAVTA in May 1986, as a Joint Powers Agency of the cities of Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore and Alameda County for the provision of public transit in the area, Vic Sood was hired as the General Manager and started work in January 1986.

LAVTA began operating with only nine leased buses in 1986. Under Sood's management and with a quickly growing Livermore Valley, the system expanded to meet the area's needs and by 1990 the agency had