

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION RULING

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, Supreme Court decided to support the hopes and dreams of millions of Hispanic children. It tells them they will have the same opportunities, the same choices, the same future that others will. The Court was loud and clear when it said that diversity can be used by colleges and universities in their admissions policies.

This is a victory for the American people and for everything our country stands for. And we have this victory despite President Bush's efforts to undermine minority access to higher education. While saying he supports diversity, President Bush has actively worked to outlaw affirmative action at the University of Michigan and across the country. We cannot accept excuses. We cannot justify smoke and mirrors. The President says that considering race or ethnic background is unfair, but affirmative action programs are forward-focused to combat discrimination and promote diversity. I know that, the military knows that, corporate America knows that, and the 39 million Hispanics in this country know that. Today, the Supreme Court has said that it knows that too. The Supreme Court ruled over 25 years ago that diversity in admissions policies added to the educational and social experiences on our college and university campuses. The Court reaffirmed that decision today.

This ruling also sends a strong message to colleges and universities in California. At the University of California, the percentage of black and Hispanic students in medical and law schools has dropped since race-conscious admissions were eliminated a few years ago.

This year, black and Hispanic students make up only 16 percent of first-year students at California's five state-run medical schools and public law schools. In contrast, in the final years of race-conscious admissions, black and Hispanics consistently accounted for more than 20 percent of enrollment at these same schools. Acceptance rates for Hispanic applicants in the entire University of California system has dropped from 64 percent in 1997 to 47 percent in 2002. What is happening to those other students? They are not just numbers!!! They are people whose lives will be changed forever.

Today, fewer than 10 percent of college-aged Hispanics go on to higher education. Only 16 percent of Hispanics between the ages of 25–29 have Bachelor's degrees. What do these numbers tell us? It tells us that we do not have the same educational opportunities that others have.

President Bush says that we should not be satisfied with the current numbers of minorities on American college campuses. He's right. But other than nice words, what does he offer? He says one thing, then does another.

He has followed budget cuts and funding freezes of programs that benefit Hispanic children with an attack on Hispanic educational opportunities.

The Bush Administration tried to find yet another way to hinder our children's chances to an equal and quality education. We are fortunate that he failed in his effort to leave even more children behind.

This loss for the Bush Administration and for its policies is a victory for every child that wants an opportunity for a better education and a better life.

### TRIBUTE TO CHANDLER A. HATCH AND PETER NOTIER

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Chandler Hatch, a senior at Lyons Township High School in LaGrange, Illinois. On June 22, 2003, Chandler will receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion from the Department of Education.

Chandler was selected by a 32 member commission from a field of over 2,600 candidates. The commission honors students based on their academic achievements, leadership abilities, community service, and continued commitment to excellence. Chandler will be awarded as part of the 39th Class of Presidential Scholars.

In addition to winning this award, Chandler was able to invite a teacher who has proven to be most influential and inspiring. Chandler selected Mr. Peter Notier, a distinguished English literature teacher at Lyons Township High School.

I would like to recognize Mr. Notier for his continued commitment to education and proven excellence in teaching. I commend Mr. Notier for his dedication and outstanding service in the field of education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing both Chandler and Peter and wish them success in the future.

### VETERANS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 23, 2003*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1460, the Veterans Entrepreneurship Act of 2003. This is essential legislation which ensures that those courageous and honorable men and women who served in our armed forces have the opportunity to receive valuable educational and professional opportu-

nities in the areas of entrepreneurship and business.

Veterans have served this country with distinction throughout its history, and many have risked their lives for our benefit. Especially in the wake of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, we should take steps to help our veterans successfully transition to civilian life.

The educational assistance provided by the Department of Veterans' Affairs is a benefit these veterans have earned, and it is important that they be able to use this assistance for valuable courses in the field of entrepreneurship, which teaches pragmatic and creative business practices useful in any field. In addition, by making it easier for disabled veterans to receive government contracts for their small businesses, this bill continues the partnership between these individuals and the government, and helps them to succeed in today's struggling economy. Operating a small business is a difficult but worthwhile endeavor, and veterans should have every opportunity to use their talents to aid the U.S. economy by starting new ventures based on their personal ingenuity.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Representative RENZI and the other Members of the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and Small Business for introducing this legislation and bringing it to the floor today. It serves as a symbol of support for the heroes who have admirably protected our freedom and served this Nation in the armed forces.

### SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH FAIRNESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. PHILIP M. CRANE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2003*

Mr. CRANE. Madam Speaker, one of the biggest challenges facing our country today is the fact that nearly 41 million working Americans do not have health insurance. While some opt out of purchasing health insurance, a majority of people simply do not have access to affordable health insurance coverage. Routinely I hear from constituents in my district about this very problem. They are struggling to keep up with ever increasing insurance premiums and are left with few coverage options. Few can afford premium increases of 12 percent or more each year, especially in a slow economy. This is a problem in communities across the United States. In fact, the annual cost to the United States for uninsured Americans is estimated to be somewhere between \$65 and \$130 billion.

More than 60 percent of the 41 million uninsured Americans work for a small business or are a dependent of a small business worker, and small businesses have been hardest hit by skyrocketing premiums. Currently, labor unions, medium-sized businesses and Fortune

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

500 companies like Ford, Chrysler and Wal-Mart have the ability to offer health benefits to their employees without complying with the diverse benefit-laden insurance mandates that exist in each of the 50 states. This exemption keeps health insurance costs down. Unfortunately, small businesses, less able to shoulder the burden of such mandates, end up paying almost 18 percent more than their big business counterparts for similar health insurance coverage. This is simply unacceptable.

Today, I join my colleagues in supporting, The Small Business Fairness Act (H.R. 660). H.R. 660 allows small businesses to form Association Health Plans (AHPs). I believe that AHPs can help reduce the number of uninsured, and I am proud to be an original co-sponsor of this important legislation. By creating AHPs, small business may pool their resources and increase their bargaining power with insurers, which will allow them to negotiate better rates and purchase quality health care at a lower cost. H.R. 660 is an important first step toward making health insurance more affordable and accessible.

The time has come for all Members of this House to support small businesses. It is time to pass the Small Business Fairness Act.

IN MEMORY OF RAY ABRIL, SR.

### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of pride that I rise today, on the floor of the United States House of Representatives, to pay tribute to the memory of Ray Abril, Sr.

Ray Abril, Sr. was a pillar of the community, a surrogate father, a molder of character, a counselor, a coach, a builder of men. Mr. Abril passed away Sunday, May 18, 2003. He was 93 years old. To the youth of Boy Scout Troop 45 of south Colton during 1942 to 1962, he was their mentor and Scoutmaster.

On May 17, 2003, former Scouts, members of the Abril family, and community leaders gathered to pay tribute to this great man of honor. They came from near and far, over 300 strong to honor him and to provide the testimony to the positive impact Mr. Abril had on the young people of San Bernardino County.

To Ray Abril, the Boy Scouts of America and the organization of his troop was paramount. His patrol leaders were as older brothers, who taught and quizzed the new members on their way to the rank of "Tenderfoot." They learned knot tying, how to roll up sleeping bags, and how to pitch a tent. Through all of this, he did not coddle them; he let them move forward at their own pace and make mistakes. But he was always there to guide them when necessary. And guide them he did, but always in a clear direction and the young boys always admired and respected him.

I will remember Ray Abril, Sr. as a man who left his mark on history as a devoted and supportive husband, father, statesman, community leader, Boy Scout leader, mentor and a man of irrefutable wisdom. His remarkably full life is a model to all as an embodiment of the vibrant and dynamic spirit of a true American. My Barbara and I extend to the Abril family the thoughts and prayers of a grateful Nation.

### SOLILOQUY

#### HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents has written a poem that showcases our Nation's flag in a glorifying manner. Mr. Victor Miller of Madisonville, Tennessee is the author of a poem titled "Soliloquy." Mr. Miller is the son of Jeanette Miller, who passed this poem along to me. Our Country's morale and heritage is strong today because of patriots like Victor Miller. I would like to call "Soliloquy" to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

### SOLILOQUY

Imagine as a flag  
on all folks passing by  
with edifying waves  
influencing their lives.

Esteemed a lofty reign  
& honored to belong  
all would offer tribute  
in oaths, salute or songs!

Recognition could abound  
for victories secured  
defending liberties  
despite many injured.

A patriotic stance  
of opportunities  
advocating, freedoms  
by land, the air & sea!

In each of fifty stars  
& else where when observed  
the glory of your stripes  
would valiantly be served!

Halleluah!!!!

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MAX BURNS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make note of how I cast my vote on roll number 293 on Thursday, June 19, 2003. As the record illustrates, I was present and cast my vote on roll number 292 at 1:44 p.m.; on roll number 293 recorded at 1:51 p.m., however, I was present but my vote was not recorded. While I cast my vote on roll number 293, technical difficulties prevented my vote from being recorded. My vote on roll number 293 as cast was in the affirmative.

### TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER JEFF TAYLOR

#### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to our country are exceptional. The United States has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated military personnel who willingly and unselfishly dedicate their lives to service and make our country a safer place to live and work. Navy Commander Jeff Taylor is one of these individuals.

On July 21, 2003, he will be honored as he retires from the U.S. Navy.

Jeff was raised in Southern California and graduated from Southern California College with a B.A. in Business Administration in 1978. After working for three years for a major defense contractor in Newport Beach, California, he accepted an appointment to Naval Officer Candidate School and received his commission in 1981.

Commander Taylor first served as the Combat Information Center Officer aboard the USS Cochrane based in Yokosuka, Japan and as the Fire Control Officer and Main Propulsion Assistant on the USS Leahy based in San Diego, California. He also served as an instructor at the Surface Warfare Officers School in Coronado teaching combat systems and ship control curriculum.

After completing Department Head School, Commander Taylor served as Chief Engineering Officer on the USS Worden based in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. During this time he participated in Operations Desert Shield and Storm. Jeff also served as Maintenance Officer at Assault Craft Unit 5 at Camp Pendleton, California where he directed maintenance and repair of Navy hovercraft and subsequently served as an Engineering Branch Head and instructor at the Surface Warfare Officers School in Newport, Rhode Island. Jeff then returned to sea duty as Executive Officer on the USS Kidd based in Norfolk, Virginia and later served as Chief Staff Officer for Destroyer Squadrons 20 and 32.

Upon completing his sea duty, Jeff reported to the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division in March of 1999. Commander Taylor also earned a Masters Degree in Business Administration and a Diploma from the United States Naval War College. His personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal and Navy Commendation Medals.

Commander Taylor is happily married to his wife Bonnie and enjoys surfing and long distance running in his spare time.

Jeff's lifetime dedication to military service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our country and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he retires.

### HONORING HARLEY-DAVIDSON ON ITS 100TH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would recognize the 100th anniversary of one of America's greatest corporations and a treasure of Milwaukee, Wisconsin—the Harley-Davidson Motor Company. 100 years ago this August in the Davidson family backyard at 38th Street and Highland Boulevard, William Harley and the Davidson brothers, Arthur, Walter, and William, finished work on their first motorcycle.

Shortly afterwards the Harley-Davidson Motor Company was built on the site of the company's current world headquarters in Milwaukee. Over the next 100 years Harley-Davidson has gone on to outstanding success,

releasing innovative and unique designs that have become so easily recognizable on roads worldwide. Harleys are known as the pre-eminent motorcycle both in this country and around the world and have become a staple of the U.S. Armed Services as well as police and fire departments throughout the country.

Harley-Davidson will be celebrating its 100th birthday this August in its hometown of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This three-day event will include festivities on Lake Michigan, a never-before-seen exhibit of sketches, videos, clay models, and mock-up motorcycles demonstrating various stages of the design used process by Harley-Davidson's Styling and Engineering departments, as well as a parade of 10,000 Harleys through downtown Milwaukee.

The national celebration will have events leading up to the grand celebration in cities across America including Las Vegas, Nashville, Indianapolis, and Dearborn. I want to invite all Harley-Davidson enthusiasts, young and old, to come out and take part in this once in a lifetime event.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this great American company by cosponsoring this resolution.

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#### RECOGNIZING R.G. MORRIS

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge the impeccable motor carrier safety record of Mr. R.G. Morris of Blue Springs, Missouri. Mr. Morris is a professional motor carrier operator for Yellow Transportation.

According to the most recent information from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, large trucks drove 7 percent of all vehicle miles traveled. In motor vehicle crashes, large trucks represented 9 percent of vehicles in fatal crashes, 3 percent of vehicles in injury crashes, and 5 percent of vehicles in property-damage-only crashes.

Mr. Morris reached a safety milestone when he recently surpassed one million miles driven without a preventable accident. This outstanding achievement, obtained by few drivers, demonstrates Mr. Morris' commitment to safety. To put this accomplishment in perspective, the average car driver would have to travel around the world forty times to equal this milestone.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. R.G. Morris for reaching this noteworthy milestone. I am proud to have a constituent as dedicated to highway safety as he is, and I wish him continued safe driving in the future.

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#### TRIBUTE TO ABINGTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

### HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Abington Senior High School as the recipient of the 2003 Harris Wofford Award pre-

sented by Youth Service America and the State Farm Companies Foundation.

The Harris Wofford Award, named for former US Senator Harris Wofford of Pennsylvania, was established in 2002 for the first annual State Farm Awards Luncheon as part of the 13th Annual National Service-Learning Conference. This award honors Harris Wofford's life long "mission of making service to others the common expectation and common experience of every young person in America".

An award like this is long overdue for Abington Senior High School since they have been dedicated to community service for years. The service-learning program, which started in 1995, has encouraged the student body to take an active interest in helping the community. The positive impact this program has had on the community as well as the students is immeasurable. The 60,000 hours that students spent last year helping the community is an outstanding accomplishment. As a proud parent of two Abington Senior High School alumni, I am sincerely honored to be able to recognize the students of Abington for their dedication and commitment to helping others. Programs like these not only help the community but also teach our youth the power of working together and helping others.

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#### NATO ALLIED COMMAND TRANSFORMATION

### HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member wishes to note the establishment of Allied Command Transformation in Norfolk, Virginia, on June 19, and to congratulate Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr., the commander of U.S. Joint Forces Command, on his appointment as the first Supreme Allied Commander Transformation.

The establishment of the first functional strategic command for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is an important step for the Alliance as it reforms its command structure to better carry out the missions needed to defend its member countries against today's threats. Allied Command Transformation replaces the old Allied Command Atlantic, which had been responsible for keeping open sea lanes between North America and Europe during the Cold War. Today, NATO faces a more pressing task: transforming allied forces from static formations designed for territorial defense to expeditionary forces able to deploy wherever needed to combat security threats. By locating Allied Command Transformation in Norfolk, home to U.S. Joint Forces Command, the transformation lessons being learned by the U.S. military can be shared with our NATO allies.

The establishment of Allied Command Transformation is an important part of the new NATO command structure, which reduces the number of NATO headquarters from 20 to 11 and eliminates geographic responsibilities. This leaner, deployable command structure will allow the Alliance to command missions wherever the member countries decide that NATO is needed.

This Member wishes to commend to his colleagues the attached speech by Lord Robert-

son, the Secretary General of NATO, at the ceremony to commission Allied Command Transformation on June 19, 2003.

REMARKS BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO, LORD ROBERTSON, AT THE CEREMONY TO THE COMMISSION OF THE NEW ALLIED COMMAND TRANSFORMATION

Admirals, Generals, Ladies and Gentlemen, this is a unique ceremony, because we are not only welcoming a new commander—we are also changing fundamentally the very nature and purpose of this strategic headquarters. Indeed, we are creating a new organization all together. That, in the history of this great Alliance, makes this a very special day.

Our first task is to thank the man who has led Allied Commander Atlantic since last October—Admiral Sir Ian Forbes. Admiral Forbes, your predecessor, General Kernan, once described Allied Command Atlantic as NATO's bridge to the future. When you took command of this headquarters, you vowed to continue that mission. You have done so and with true distinction. Your staff here at Norfolk has nothing but the highest praise for the work you have done here. That is an most important testimony.

Let me add my own thanks, and congratulations, for the important work you have done here since January 2002, first as Deputy and then as Acting Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic. You have provided sound leadership in Norfolk through a critical period of concluding SACLANT's successful mission and defining the role—and I might add, daring role—this new command will play in the Alliance. We will continue to value your leadership as Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, Transformation.

Admiral Giambastiani—or Admiral "G", as you are already known here—this is your first day on the job. But you have already made history, as the first commander of the new Allied Command Transformation. This is an honour that is well deserved. I would like to congratulate you, as well, on this appointment.

In the coming years, Admiral, you will have a key role to play in shaping NATO's transformation. It is a transformation that has already begun, and the establishment of this Command—ACT—is proof positive.

ACT will shape the future of combined and joint operations. It will identify new concepts, and bring them to maturity. It will then turn these transformational concepts into reality; a reality shared by the entire NATO Alliance. And it will do so in close cooperation with the U.S. Joint Forces Command co-located here, to ensure that NATO's transformation stays in lock step with the changes taking place in the United States.

Indeed, the creation of a new permanent command here in Norfolk—one dedicated solely to transformation—demonstrates the investment NATO is making in preparing itself for 21st century operations.

This Command underscores NATO nations' commitment to a continuous, permanent process of transforming and modernising our armed forces.

ACT is, in a very real sense, both the symbol of the new NATO, and the architect that will shape its future. It will play an invaluable role in ensuring that the Atlantic Alliance can continue to defend the security and interests of its members against threats and challenges which we cannot even imagine today.

ACT is a symbol of this Alliance's confident embrace of the future and its challenges.

Admiral Giambastiani, as I said last week to NATO Defence Ministers in Brussels, your new title, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, means that you more than

anyone else will personify the critical importance this Alliance places on transforming its capabilities for the 21st century. An awesome responsibility. But welcome nevertheless to the NATO family.

SUPPORT INCREASED  
TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT

**HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ**

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives is fortunate to have the leadership and commitment to critical transportation investment in Chairman DON YOUNG, Ranking Member JIM OBERSTAR, Subcommittee Chairman TOM PETRI, and Subcommittee Ranking Member WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI. As Congress moves toward consideration of the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century, we need to provide the necessary increased investment to meet the growing needs of surface transportation. I am confident that with the strong leadership on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the reauthorization process will provide growth in the surface transportation program in order to ensure safe and efficient surface transportation networks.

Investment in surface transportation is critical to our economy, the environment, and quality of life. Transportation related investment produces new jobs and is directly related economic activity. Investment in efficient transportation networks also relieves and prevents congestion, a serious environmental challenge and costly burden facing regions throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

Transportation investment goes beyond moving people and goods and providing fertile ground for economic growth and prosperity. Transportation is about safety and the health of our citizenry, whether they travel on highways, urban arteries, subways, bikes or as pedestrians.

Puerto Rico has tremendous mobility related challenges that we are addressing through an important partnership between the Commonwealth, Congress, and the federal government. While Puerto Rico is a small island only 100 miles by 30 miles in size, our population is nearing 4 million people.

Puerto Rico has one of the highest vehicles per mile of road ratio in the world. Congestion and related economic and environmental problems are a serious challenge facing Puerto Rico. Geographical constraints, a growing population, and economic growth all necessitate significant continued transportation investment.

Puerto Rico is nearing the completion of Phase 1 of the New Start Tren Urbano project in metropolitan San Juan. I will seek authorization of Phase 2 of this important project, for transportation that will enable necessary continued growth in the program so that safe, efficient intermodal networks result throughout.

Through adequate investment, we can build today to meet the increasing demands of the future. Investment in transportation infrastructure produces more than highways, new start light rail projects, or high-speed ferryboats. Transportation investment is also about safety, economic development and quality of life. I urge my colleagues to support the leadership

of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee who will fight for necessary investment in transportation to meet the growing needs of tomorrow by necessary investment today.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT PATRICK

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Arkansan, an outstanding citizen and one of our state's enduring treasures, Robert Patrick. I am proud to recognize Mr. Patrick in the United States Congress for his invaluable contributions and dedicated service to the people of Arkansas County and the nation.

Mr. Patrick was born and raised in DeWitt, which is located in the same county where I was raised. While he was still a teenager, Mr. Patrick left the small community where he grew up to serve his country in the United States Navy. After returning home from his distinguished military service, Mr. Patrick married his lovely wife Doris, a fellow Arkansas County native.

Mr. Patrick built a successful career as an energetic and successful salesman traveling the country to make a living and support his family. He, Doris and their two children, Pam and Kevin, lived in locales as varied as California, Missouri and even Connecticut, where the Patrick family owned and operated a sports and hobby shop.

As Mr. Patrick neared retirement age, he and Doris decided to move back to her hometown, St. Charles, where his dedication to community service took root. Just two years after moving to St. Charles, Mr. Patrick was elected mayor, and it seems like he hasn't rested since.

Personally, I think of him as the consummate utility man—and not because he has worked tirelessly to upgrade the natural gas, water and sewer infrastructure in St. Charles. Rather, just like a good utility player on a baseball team that's willing to play any position in the field to help his team, Mr. Patrick has been willing to do anything to improve his town. He has done everything from securing a full-time police officer for St. Charles to erecting the city's annual Christmas light display.

Mr. Patrick embodies everything that's wonderful about living in small town America. He has generously shared his time and talent with the citizens of Arkansas County and it's a better place to live because of him. On behalf of Congress, I salute Mayor Robert Patrick of St. Charles, and thank him for his tireless service to his community, his state and his nation.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
MAJOR GARY L. BERGOSH

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Gary Bergosh and celebrate his safe return home from active duty in Operations Enduring Freedom and

Iraqi Freedom. Gary is the ultimate example of a citizen soldier by serving his country for four years of active duty in the Marine Corps Reserves and the state of Florida for the past ten years practicing law.

Gary was raised in a Navy family and attended elementary, middle and high school in Pensacola, Florida. Gary attended Pensacola Junior College and graduated from The University of West Florida. Shortly after graduation, Gary attended Marine Corps Officer Candidate School, where he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant.

Gary attended law school at the University of Memphis while serving in the Marine Corps reserves. Upon completion, Gary entered active duty with the Marine Corps and served three years in Okinawa, Japan as a prosecutor and a defense attorney.

After leaving active duty with the Marine Corps, Gary decided to return home to Pensacola and became a prosecutor for the State Attorney's office.

Gary is currently a senior attorney for the Federal Government, a Major in the United States Marine Corps Reserves, and in November of 2000 was appointed by Florida Governor Jeb Bush to serve as a member of the Escambia County School Board.

Gary's Marine Corps unit, the 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion, was activated on January 27, 2003 to fight the nation's war against terrorism.

Gary served as the Battalion's Executive Officer in Kuwait and Iraq during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Gary returned with his Battalion to the United States on June 6, 2003. Gary will be demobilized from active duty on September 1, 2003.

While at the Marine Corps Officer Candidate School, Gary married the former Carissa Borders, a native of Pensacola. Gary and Carissa are currently the proud parents of Alexander. The Bergosh family are active members of their church and community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Major Gary Bergosh for the example he has set in his community. I offer my sincere thanks for all that he has done for Northwest Florida and this great nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM KOLBE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was unavoidably detained and missed votes on the following measures:

1. H. Res. 264—Expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Algeria on May 21, 2003 (#297). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

2. H. Res. 177—Commending the people of the Republic of Kenya for conducting free and fair elections, for the peaceful and orderly transfer of power in their government, and for the continued success of democracy in their nation since that transition (#298). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

3. H. Con. Res. 209—Commending the signing of the United States-Adriatic Charter, a charter of partnership among the United States, Albania, Croatia, and Macedonia (#299). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

4. H.R. 2465—Family Farmer Bankruptcy Relief Act of 2003 (#300). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SAM  
JOHNSON

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute posthumously to Fort Campbell's Deputy Garrison Commander, Sam Johnson for his vital role and tireless commitment to his duties and country.

Sam Johnson began his career at Fort Campbell in 1972. He was the first civilian to fill the position of Youth Activities Director. Mr. Johnson quickly rose to the top at Fort Campbell, continually becoming the first civilian to fill the posts of Outdoor Recreation Director, Recreation Services Officer, and even being transferred to Panama in the Cold War to oversee the entire Army Recreation Program.

After serving in Panama, Mr. Johnson returned to Fort Campbell to, yet again, become the first civilian to hold the title and responsibility of Deputy Director of Personnel and Community Activities. In just a few years, he became Director of Personnel and Community Activities. Mr. Johnson's excellent administrative skills shined in his position as Deputy Resource Manager, which helped him to obtain his appointment as the only civilian to ever serve as Deputy Garrison Commander.

For the past 11 years, Mr. Johnson has served as Deputy Garrison Commander. His love for his country is evident by his devotion to his job. Despite his diagnosis of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, he still continued with his duties. Mr. Johnson was able to perform his responsibilities as Deputy Garrison Commander until his recent death. Deputy Garrison Commander Sam Johnson emulated his principles of hard work and never giving up.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend the gratitude of myself and the entire Nation to Sam Johnson in recognition of his outstanding commitment and service to Fort Campbell and to our country. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him and offering comfort to his family and Fort Campbell, as they will truly miss Sam Johnson, a man of true courage and character.

CONGRATULATIONS CONTINENTAL  
MICRONESIA ON 35TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate Continental Micronesia on its 35th anniversary and to wish a happy birthday to CEO Mark Erwin and employees of Continental Micronesia.

I also want to take this time to commend the services rendered by Continental Micronesia to the island of Guam. Guam is the regional hub for Continental Micronesia, and we are proud of the network that strengthens ties be-

tween Guam and our Pacific neighbors. Tourism is the leading private sector industry on Guam, and Continental has provided consistent, reliable service to Guam and to destinations across the entire Pacific Rim including: Cairns, Australia; Denpasar, Indonesia; Hong Kong; Honolulu, Hawaii; Koror, Palau; Kosrae, Micronesia; Kwajalein, Marshall Islands; Majuro, Marshall Islands; Nagoya, Japan; Niigata, Japan; Osaka/Kenai, Japan; Pohnpei, Micronesia; Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; Sapporo, Japan; Sendai, Japan; Taipei, Taiwan; Chuuk, Micronesia; and Yap, Micronesia.

Continental Airlines moved its headquarters to Los Angeles, California in July, 1963, as it provided important transportation services to members of the armed forces between the United States and Asia during the Vietnam War. In response to its increased importance in the Pacific during the Vietnam War, Continental formed Air Micronesia in 1968. Air Micronesia, now known as Continental Micronesia, has become one of the principal passenger airlines for the islands of the Pacific, providing services between the islands and nations along the Pacific Rim and the mainland.

Under trailblazing CEO Robert F. Six, Continental Airlines mixed creativity with ingenuity in establishing many of its flight routes in the Pacific. During the 1960's, Continental Micronesia would staff flights with mechanics and carry spare materials on board in order that passenger airliners could land on and embark from coral island landing strips. The company was also innovative in that it opened hotels and restaurants at its island destinations in order to stimulate tourism.

In 1976, Air Micronesia began providing services between Saipan and Japan. This additional service would prove to be vital to the future economic growth of Guam, for the vast majority of the over one million tourists that visit Guam each year are Japanese. In fact, Continental Micronesia's Guam-Tokyo, Japan route became the airline industry's single most profitable route in the world. We on Guam are grateful for this mutually beneficial relationship, and we look forward to working together with Continental to perpetuate further growth of the visitor industry on Guam.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to Continental Micronesia and its employees for their years of hard work and dedication to the people of Guam, as they celebrate their 35th birthday. Without their commitment, the visitor industry on Guam could not thrive.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR.  
HOWARD D. SAMUEL

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Howard D. Samuel, and his lifelong contributions to our great country. Howard passed away on June 19, 2003. His efforts as a veteran of the labor movement, as well as his numerous positive accomplishments during his long career, are worthy of the highest commendation.

Howard began his work in the labor movement in 1949 as an organizer with the Amal-

gamated Clothing Workers of America. He was then elected as international vice president in 1966. His dedication and unrelenting service to the movement paved the way for new and innovative solutions to labor problems and issues. In 1977, he was appointed U.S. Deputy Secretary of Labor for International Labor Affairs by President Carter. His role as Deputy Secretary allowed him the opportunity to be involved with many facets of the department such as international trade, trade adjustment assistance, and the International Labor Organization.

In 1979, Howard was elected President of the Industrial Union Department, a federation consisting of over 50 national and international unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO. During his presidency, he founded the Collective Bargaining Forum, a study group of union presidents and various company CEOs. This Forum initiated several groundbreaking reports on industrial relations issues. In 1991, Howard was the first labor representative to ever be appointed to the Defense Science Board, a key advisory organization to the Secretary of Defense.

Howard, by serving in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1945, exhibited his true sense of patriotic duty to our nation. He also served as vice chairman of both the New York Coalition and the Council on Competitiveness. Along with his many other contributions to society, he was also a trustee and board member of the Carnegie Corporation, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center in Atlanta, as well as the American Civil Liberties Union, to name just a few.

Mr. Speaker, Howard D. Samuel dedicated his life to supporting the labor movement and serving as a leader and role model for all Americans. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in remembering Mr. Samuel and his lifetime of achievement and devotion to our great country. He will be remembered honorably and truly missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH C.  
SPICUZZO

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joseph C. Spicuzzo, a friend and distinguished public servant who has dedicated much of his life to improving the lives of others. Joe is being awarded the Americanism Award by the Anti-Defamation League tonight in New Brunswick, New Jersey not only for his distinguished public service but for his dedication to raising funds for important charitable causes.

Joe began his long career of public service with his election as Mayor of Spotswood in 1976 and currently is the Middlesex County Sheriff and the Chairman of the Middlesex County Democratic Organization. Joe was also asked by Governor McGreevey to take on the added responsibility of being the "Chair of Chairs", an informal position that allows him direct access to the Governor and his staff to help resolve outstanding issues affecting the individual counties in the State. Joe has demonstrated great success in leadership positions mainly because of the confidence people

have in his interpersonal skills, his ability to settle disputes, and his affable manner.

In addition to the dedication Joe has illustrated in his public service, he has been a tireless fundraiser for important charitable causes. He has raised funds for the American Heart Association, a cause especially dear to him because of the death of his father at an early age from this silent killer. Joe became a key figure in the annual fundraising drive, Operation Heartbeat, held every February on WCTC radio station. He has been recognized with an American Heart Association Testimonial, the March of Dimes Franklin Award, the Salvation Army OTHERS Award and the B'nai B'rith International Humanitarian Award. He was also named Man of the Year by the George Otlowski Citizens League, the North Brunswick Italian American Club, and awarded the Hubert H. Humphrey Friend of Labor Award in recognition of his friendship and outstanding work.

Joe and his wife, the former MaryAnn Longo, and their daughter, JoAnn now reside in South River, New Jersey. Their son, Charlie and his wife, Denise, returned to the Borough of Spotswood to begin their life together.

Mr. Speaker, on this day I rise up to acknowledge a truly remarkable individual and I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the distinguished Joseph C. Spicuzzo for his untiring dedication and devotion to serving his community.

HONORING FATHER MICHAEL P.  
BAFARO

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Father Michael P. Bafaro for his service to the local and international community.

Father Bafaro studied at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, CT; Seminary of Philosophy in Montreal, Canada; and Vesovile Seminary in Pordenone, Italy. At Vesovile, Father Bafaro was ordained on June 28, 1953. He worked for 11 years at Our Lady of Lourdes and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Worcester, Massachusetts before volunteering to travel to Sicuani, Peru to work with the often neglected Andean community.

His experience in Peru was a critical step towards his role as an international community leader and activist. He returned to Worcester to work with the Latino community. In Worcester, he founded the only Latino community-based organization in the city. His role as founder and executive director of Centro Las Americas, in addition to his longtime participation in the community thereafter, caused the organization to grant Father Bafaro the first Annual Lifetime Achievement Award.

Father Bafaro earned the position of Pastor/Administrator of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel-St. Ann in Worcester in 1986. This position had a special spiritual meaning for the Father Bafaro due to his close relationship with the Carmelites of Peru. Once again Father Bafaro excelled as a leader and defender of human rights and equality. He has proven to be a loyal advocate for children's education, cultural awareness, low-income housing, and employment opportunities for those in need. He built

the Mt. Carmel Apartments for low-income and handicapped people in 1991 and the Italian-American Cultural Center.

Father Bafaro has been honored with the Worcester Sons of Italy Achievement Award and Social Justice Award; the Beacon Award from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester; the Pro-Deo Ad Juventudem Medal; and on four separate occasions, he received the key to the City of Worcester. Father Bafaro also participated in organizations such as the Affirmative Action Commission for the City of Worcester; the Board of Directors of the Northeast Hispanic Catholic Pastoral Center; the Priest Senate of the Diocese of Worcester; the Governor's Commission of Puerto Ricans and Hispanics; the Executive Board of Worcester Cooperative Council; City Managers Manpower Commission; Coalition for Peace and Justice; the Federation of New England Catholic Charities and Social Services; the Order of Sons of Italy; the United Way Task Force; and Ad Hoc Committee for Statewide Education.

Father Bafaro supported the Worcester community in December 1999 after the fire that claimed the lives of six firefighters. He provided support and guidance to the families and friends of the fallen heroes.

He is the president of Worcester Community Cable Access television station where important community issues are presented and discussed. These examples show his devotion to raising the consciousness of others and the extent to which he stands for peace and justice. Father Bafaro has touched many lives, and has spent most of his life working to improve the lives of others. He has struggled alongside the underprivileged and promoted open-mindedness among people from multiple backgrounds.

I can attest to the extent at which Father Bafaro has assisted and guided the community of Worcester because he has collaborated with my staff and me on various projects, including the Latino Education Institute. I have witnessed the accomplishments of Father Bafaro as a local community activist and leader who has based his work on the broader goal of promoting justice and equality at home and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the entire U.S. House of Representatives joins me in thanking Father Michael P. Bafaro for his contribution to the community.

TAIWAN'S INCLUSION IN THE WHO

**HON. PETER T. KING**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of Taiwan's entry into the World Health Organization (WHO). Time and time again Taiwan has been thwarted from joining this international organization solely because of objections from the People's Republic of China. Most recently this occurred in May at the World Health Assembly in Geneva; even after Congress passed legislation (P.L. 108-028) authorizing the U.S. Government to implement a plan for Taiwan to obtain observer status and Secretary of Health Human Services Tommy Thompson publicly and firmly expressed U.S. support for Taiwan's inclusion in the WHO.

The recent SARS outbreak in Asia has made it very clear how important it is to allow Taiwan to participate in the WHO. While the People's Republic of China was suppressing information and statistics about the disease and covering up its scope, Taiwan, on the other hand, was reporting freely and accurately on SARS. It immediately offered to work with the WHO yet was denied; only later were two WHO experts dispatched to Taiwan. In addition, Beijing was quite unhelpful in alerting the WHO and neighboring countries as to when and where this outbreak originated causing additional infections and deaths.

We all have a responsibility to assist the WHO and inform the world when it comes to global health. For too long, however, Taiwan has not been given this opportunity because of political motivations. It is now time to allow Taiwan to join the WHO or at least allow it to obtain observer status. With the threat of outbreaks such as SARS sweeping across continents and infecting thousands, it is not only absurd but also immoral to keep the 23 million Taiwanese citizens from receiving its assistance. Taiwan, and the world for that matter, will be far better protected when it finally obtains WHO membership.

WHY ME? CLUB

**HON. KATHERINE HARRIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an extraordinary group of high school students, who have set the gold standard for leadership, compassion, and selflessness in my hometown of Sarasota, FL.

In September of 2002, Zak Tanjeloff, a student attending Sarasota High School, founded the Why Me? Club to implement his vision of providing relief to the poverty-stricken children of South America.

Demonstrating amazing dedication and skill, Zak and his fellow students have organized and managed major relief efforts entirely on their own.

Motivated by a soul-searching question—"Why am I lucky enough to live the life I live when so many suffer so greatly throughout the world?"—they have collected and delivered medical supplies, school supplies, sporting goods, dental supplies, toiletries, toys, and other items that most children and adults take for granted to impoverished locations in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and Surinam.

While their fellow students vacationed on Florida's beaches during Spring Break 2003, the Why Me? Club, in partnership with Operation Serving Children, delivered over \$100,000 worth of much-needed medical supplies to the people of Chisec, Guatemala. Moreover, a second group of Why Me? members recently traveled once again to Chisec with yet another \$100,000 in medical supplies.

Mr. Speaker, these exceptional young men and women deserve our thanks and our acclaim. Their generosity, their global awareness, and their commitment to the most vulnerable members of the human family demonstrate that the greatest virtues of our Nation still illuminate the hopes and dreams of our children.

HONORING SERGEANT DORIS  
HIGGINS

**HON. CHRISTOPHER COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, on July 6, 2003, the Laguna Beach Police Department will say farewell to retiring Sergeant Doris Higgins.

Sergeant Higgins began her career with the Laguna Beach Police Department on June 29, 1970, as a police dispatcher. Seven years later, she became a full-time officer assigned to the field services division of the department, where she worked until 5 years ago, when she was assigned to the traffic division.

What makes Sergeant Doris Higgins stand apart from other officers is the fact that she began serving her community as a police officer when women were just beginning to make inroads in the profession.

She has been a role model for women looking to break into the profession. She has guided many employees as they have begun and ended their law enforcement career. She has been a noticeable strength of the local law enforcement community. Now, the Laguna Beach Police Department must say goodbye after 33 years.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Sergeant Higgins on her retirement and thanking her for years of dedication to the citizens of Laguna Beach.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on June 11 because I was attending a very important meeting involving healthcare with the President of the United States in my district in Chicago, Illinois. If I was present for rollcall votes for the following bills:

Rollcall 258 on agreeing to the resolution H.R. 2115, Flight 100—Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act;

Rollcall 259 on motion to suspend the rules and agree to Expressing Support for the Goals and Ideals of Human Genome Month and DNA Day;

Rollcall 260 on motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amend the Commercial Spectrum Enhancement Act;

Rollcall 261 on motion to suspend the rules and pass the Welfare Reform Extension Act;

I would have voted Yeas to all of these bills.

TORTURE DEATHS IN UZBEKISTAN  
REVEAL LACK OF PROGRESS

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in March 2002, the United States and Uzbekistan signed a declaration proclaiming a "Strategic Partnership" between our countries. This

former Soviet republic, with the largest population of the five Central Asian countries, has played an important role in assisting the United States after 9/11, and I am grateful for that.

At the same time, as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I have deep concerns about the human rights situation in Uzbekistan, where no political opposition, no freedom of speech nor freedom of association are permitted. As a result of this situation, Congress has conditioned the release of financial assistance to Uzbekistan upon a determination by the Secretary of State that Tashkent is making "substantial and continuing progress" in meeting commitments specified in the March 2002 bilateral declaration, including in the field of human rights. The Secretary has twice—on August 26, 2002 and May 14, 2003—made such a determination.

Regrettably, there has been no "substantial and continuing progress" in the field of human rights in Uzbekistan. True, a human rights group has been registered, censorship has formally been lifted, and there have been amnesties, but these are largely token deliverables meant to give the appearance of progress. Uzbekistan has also admitted the U.N.'s Special Rapporteur on Torture. But all these gestures are more cosmetic than substantial. In fact, the U.N. Special Rapporteur concluded that torture is "systematic" in Uzbekistan. Instead of claiming credit for allowing him into the country at all, President Karimov should renounce this barbaric practice and Tashkent should take urgent measures to prevent and punish acts of torture.

Unfortunately, thus far President Karimov has refused to take even the simple step of acknowledging and renouncing torture. More to the point, just after the Secretary's most recent determination last month, Orif Ershanov and Otamaza Gafarov joined the unconscionably long list of individuals who have died as a result of torture or other abuse inflicted by Uzbek officials.

Once again, Uzbek officials maintain that these most recent deaths in custody were the result of "natural causes." But the country's deplorable record undermines the credibility of such assertions. Frankly, I am surprised by Tashkent's claims; last year, there were two cases when Uzbek policemen who tortured prisoners, in some cases to death, received long prison terms. Their sentences constituted a sad form of progress in Uzbekistan, allowing observers to hope that law enforcement officials would have reason to fear serious consequences for mistreating people in their care. The latest assertions about "natural causes" signal clear regression to old positions that damage Uzbekistan's government and should be an embarrassment to the United States.

Particularly with respect to torture, Tashkent should immediately take several steps to demonstrate to the international community a serious commitment to make meaningful progress.

First, the Government of Uzbekistan should provide immediate access, organized by the OSCE, for independent medical experts to examine the bodies of Ershanov and Gafarov. Unfortunately, we have received indications that Uzbekistan is balking at admitting independent forensic specialists. Furthermore, Tashkent should establish a system of access for independent experts to investigate all cases of alleged torture and should act on the

recommendations of the U.N. Special Rapporteur on Torture.

It is equally important that Uzbekistan unconditionally release those who have been jailed because of their political opposition or religious affiliation. I have repeatedly urged Uzbek officials, including President Karimov during his visit to Washington in March of last year, to release the writer Mamadali Makhmudov, for example. One of the Bekjanov brothers has indeed been freed, but two of his siblings remain in prison, and we have received reports from family members of their declining health. As the most recent deaths in custody demonstrate, fears that such prisoners may die from their mistreatment during incarceration are well founded.

Mr. Speaker, improved relations are in the interest of both Uzbekistan and the United States. But closer, deeper ties will not be built on the graves of Uzbekistan's citizens who have been tortured to death. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that I will soon be able to report back to my colleagues that President Karimov has taken meaningful steps to confront torture and bring a measure of justice to its victims.

BIOTECH DECISIONS SHOULD BE  
SCIENCE-BASED

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the following editorial from the June 23, 2001, Omaha World-Herald. The editorial emphasizes the need to take a science-based approach regarding the issue of biotech crops and highlights a positive example in India. On the other hand, the European Union's continued moratorium on approving new agriculture biotech lacks a scientific basis. This discriminatory and protectionist stance harms U.S. farmers, consumers worldwide, and developing countries. The U.S. is correctly challenging the EU's position, which is transparently devoid of any relationship to sound science.

A TALE OF TWO MIND-SETS

Recent days have shown a big contrast in how some governments abroad approach the issue of genetically modified foods.

One development, from India, reflects a commendable, science-based approach to biotech crops. The other, from the European Union, indicates the E.U.'s continuing insistence on using bogus claims about biotech crops as an excuse to shut out U.S. food exports.

In India, the government says it is nearing regulatory approval of a genetically modified potato that has one-third more protein than normal. The new potato is to be distributed to school children as part of their mid-day meal.

The head of India's biotechnology department voiced strong support for the new product, calling it part of "a technology for the future." Many of India's more than 1 billion people are plagued by dietary deficiencies in protein and vitamin A, she said, and biotech foods such as the new potato can help address the need.

In another encouraging sign, a group of Indian scientists stepped forward in April to rebut the claim by anti-biotech activists that the new potato is the brainchild of profit-seeking Western corporations: As reported

by The Associated Press, "the Indian scientists made clear they are on the front lines of such developments."

Last week, representatives of India's biotech sector spoke out, saying that their industry is in a state of "near paralysis" due to opposition from critics of genetically modified foods. One Indian biotech consultant lamented that the "protest industry" has "exploited a few—technical violations and has made the entire system rigid."

In Europe, anti-biotech activists enjoy particular clout, and last week talks between U.S. and E.U. officials over genetically modified foods broke down. The United States will now turn to the World Trade Organization to appoint a panel to rule on the case. The United States is said to have a good chance of gaining a ruling that would compel the E.U. to end its ban on American biotech crops.

Don Lipton, a spokesman for the American Farm Bureau Federation, was right when he said that "countries shouldn't be able to erect barriers for nonscientific reasons." In India, the government, to its credit, acknowledges that point. Regrettably, European governments are content to ignore it and continue their opportunistic stonewalling.

CONGRATULATING FRANK J. WSOL  
OF CHICAGO

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Frank J. Wsol, the Secretary Treasurer of Teamsters Local 710, on being presented the Distinguished Community Service Award by the Anti-Defamation League at their annual dinner.

Frank Wsol epitomizes the principles of organized labor and the role it plays in our community. He has served loyally as a Teamster since 1946, and has ascended the ranks first as an Organizer, and later as Chairman of the Union's Health, Welfare and Pension Fund.

In addition to proudly serving as a Teamster, Frank has been a leader for all of labor including service as Chairman of the Illinois Joint State Grievance Committee and on the Executive Committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor. He currently serves as a member of the Executive Board for Joint Council 25.

Many of the principles of the organization and community that Frank has embodied for the last half century have come from his service to our country as a member of the U.S. Air Force. Frank served in both Japan and Korea, and has stayed active as a member of the Neer-Goudie American Legion Post 846.

Frank's care for his community has always included his love for children and his dedication to providing them with a bright future. He has dedicated time and energy to the Children's Advocacy Center in both Chicago and Hoffman Estates, and the Little City Foundation in Palatine.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Anti-Defamation League in recognizing Frank Wsol. I also congratulate Frank and his wonderful family: Florence, his wife of over 50 years, his late daughter Maureen, his son Michael and his fiancée Marlene Demuzio, his son Frank Jr. and his wife Madeline, and his grandsons

Frank, Brian, Kevin and Steve. And I applaud the Anti-Defamation League for the work that they do to protect our liberty, and for honoring one of our most distinguished citizens.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MOSAIC

**HON. TOM OSBORNE**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, On July 1, 2003, two organizations deeply rooted in Nebraska will join hands to form a new organization dedicated to caring for people with developmental disabilities. I rise today to recognize and commend the beginning of this new organization—Mosaic.

Bethphage, founded in 1913 in Axtell, Nebraska, which is located in my congressional district, and Martin Luther Home Society, founded in 1925 in Sterling, Nebraska, is my colleague from Nebraska's, Mr. Bereuter's congressional district, bring 168 years of experience to the field of developmental disabilities. The consolidation of the two organizations will give Mosaic secure financial strength, fiscally responsible stewardship and diverse professional choices as it works to make life better for people with disabilities.

Mosaic will serve approximately 3,700 people in 16 states and Great Britain, and will employ more than 5,100 direct support professional, regional management and home office staff. Mosaic will have two corporate offices, both of which will be located in Nebraska.

Finally, Mosaic will provide a full range of supports and advocacy for people with disabilities from early intervention through elderly care. Services will include residential group home, host home, in-home supports, behavioral skills, and spiritual development.

As Mosaic officially begins operations on July 1, 2003, I want to congratulate this exceptional organization for their visionary leadership in the field of developmental disabilities. I feel I can speak for many Nebraskans when I say that I am proud that Mosaic calls Nebraska home.

REPRESSION SPREADING IN  
BELARUS

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Europe's last dictator, Belarus' Alyksandr Lukashenka, appears determined to ignore the voices of the people of Belarus calling for basic respect for human rights and democratic principles a decade after that country gained its independence and joined the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

As Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I am disturbed by recent developments which demonstrate the growing repression in Belarus. There have been further restrictions imposed on the independent media, with the recent suspension of independent newspapers Navinki and Ekho. Just a few days ago, the publication *Predprinimatelskaya Gazeta* was

suspended for three months. The offices of the trade union paper *Solidarnost* have been sealed by the authorities. Still other publications have received warnings that could lead to their closure. These actions were preceded by the three-month suspension of two prominent independent newspapers—*Belaruskaya Delovaya Gazeta* and *BDG*—For Internal Use Only.

The Lukashenka regime is also targeting schools. The National Humanities Lyceum, a highly respected high school promoting study of the Belarusian language and culture, is under fire, with its acting head to be replaced by a reportedly non-Belarusian-speaking official. Why? Because professors at the school support democracy and the Belarusian language and culture which ironically is anathema to the Belarusian strongman. Mr. Speaker, what kind of leader actively suppresses his nation's language and culture?

Moreover, a new crackdown on Pentecostal home meetings in western Belarus is underway, with fines being handed down on church members who permit their homes to be used for prayer meetings—a result of last year's restrictive religion law.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are also facing increasing scrutiny, often for truly spurious reasons such as minor mistakes in registration documents. Several, including *Ratusha*, *Varuta* and the *Youth Christian Social Union*, are under threat of liquidation. Just a few days ago, the Homel regional court ordered the closure of the area's largest NGO, *Civic Initiatives*. The intensified campaign against NGOs and the independent media are widely regarded among domestic and international observers as a concerted attack on active and independent civil society structures.

Repressive actions against individuals continue as well. Recently, 18-year-old ZUBR activist Tatiana Elovaya was sentenced to 10 days imprisonment for manifesting her support in an April 3 demonstration outside the U.S. Embassy for the campaign to liberate Iraq. Several others, including 19-year-old Lyubov Kuchinskaya had served 10-day sentences earlier. Unfortunately, these are just some recent examples of a longstanding pattern of the Lukashenka regime's flouting of its OSCE commitments and continued disregard for the four OSCE criteria set forth three years ago by the Parliamentary Troika for Belarus.

Despite steps by the OSCE community, including the re-opening of the OSCE Office in Minsk (albeit under a more limited mandate), the seating of the National Assembly and the lifting of a visa ban, not only have reciprocal steps not been taken by the Belarusian authorities but the situation has indeed deteriorated further.

Earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 854, the Belarus Democracy Act, designed to assist the people of Belarus in regaining their freedom and enable them to join the European community of democracies. Key provisions of this Act also have been incorporated into the Foreign Relations Reauthorization bill. Mr. Speaker, the Lukashenka regime's continuing suppression of the long-suffering Belarusian people underscores the need for the Belarus Democracy Act and other efforts—including within the OSCE—to restore respect for human rights and institutions of democratic governance.

HONORING CLIFFORD THEODORE SHUMATE

**HON. ERNIE FLETCHER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful father and grandfather, resourceful businessman, and lifelong Kentuckian that, unfortunately, passed away on June 21, 2003. I speak of Clifford Theodore Shumate, a self-made man that rose from humble beginnings to build a successful textile-manufacturing outfit that now stretches across Kentucky's Bluegrass Region.

Clifford Shumate was born on September 9, 1914 in Fleming County, Kentucky. The eldest of seven children, Mr. Shumate struggled to provide for his family. When he was just eight years old, Mr. Shumate completed the third grade and was sent to work the land as a tenant farmer. Although he received only a limited formal education, Mr. Shumate was, nevertheless, a knowledgeable man that learned a great deal from his own experiences and self-determination.

In 1933, Mr. Shumate married Carrie Spivey and, together, they founded Griffin Manufacturing in Carlisle, Kentucky. In 1948, with resources totaling about \$6,000 and a workforce of only eight employees, Mr. and Mrs. Shumate oversaw a modest t-shirt manufacturing operation. It took little time, however, for this small company to grow.

Within a year, Mr. Shumate expanded his company to include a second Carlisle factory with 150 employees. Following the construction of a third factory in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, Mr. Shumate consolidated all of his plants into a new 36,000 square foot facility in Nicholas County. By 1973, with new plants in Paris, Cynthiana, and Maysville, Kentucky, Mr. Shumate administered a company with over 3,000 employees.

Clearly, Mr. Shumate's accomplishments in his home state of Kentucky cannot be questioned. However, his personal resolve and desire to grow led Mr. Shumate to open international facilities in Merelbeke, Belgium and Carlton Place, Canada.

After 33 years of service, Mr. and Mrs. Shumate retired in 1980. They left the company, now known as Kentucky Textiles, in the same manner in which they created it—together. Mr. Shumate's international textile firm, which began 55 years ago as a small t-shirt manufacturer in Carlisle, still remains in family hands. Mr. Shumate's son, Wayne, and his grandchildren, Cliff and Paige, are continuing the legacy that Clifford Shumate began long ago, at the age of eight, on the family farm in Fleming County, Kentucky.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, during an absence yesterday, I regrettably missed rollcall votes 297–300. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall

No. 297: "Yea"; rollcall No. 298: "Yea"; rollcall No. 299: "Yea"; rollcall No. 300: "Yea."

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAPE'S RANCH

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Mape's Ranch in Modesto, California.

Mape's Ranch was founded by E.T. Mape in 1923. The historic 10,000 acres of farmland and wetlands is nestled against the Stanislaus, Toulumne and San Joaquin Rivers, about ten miles west of Modesto. The primary crops produced by Mape's Ranch include wheat, corn, almonds, watermelons, tomatoes, and plums. The ranch also raises beef cattle, and is known as "The Home Of One-Ton Bulls," and has as its famous slogan, "Breed the Best, and Forget the Rest."

These days, Mape's Ranch is owned and operated by the nephew of E.T. Mape, William "Bill" Lyons, Sr., his wife Mary Lynn Houghtaling Lyons, and their six children. Bill and Mary Lyons were both born in Minnesota, and married in 1949. This third generation family ranching business has built itself on family values, hard work, and dedication, and is looking forward to celebrating eighty years of active involvement with the California agriculture community.

The Lyons family, encompassing Bill and Mary, their six children, twenty-one grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, is recognized throughout the state as community leaders. Bill Sr. has been honored with the following community awards: Modesto Chamber of Commerce President's Award, 1991, the "Fred Prince Memorial" Good Egg Award, and the Stanislaus/San Joaquin County Cattlemen of the Year Award, 1984.

I am honored to personally know each member of the Lyon's family and it is with great honor that I commemorate the 80th anniversary of Mape's Ranch, a true icon of the Central Valley of California.

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as a co-chair of the newly formed Refugee Caucus, I rise on behalf of the world's 15 million refugees on the eve of World Refugee Day, which occurred last Friday, June 20th.

We know that the plight of refugees throughout the world is precarious. They have fled war, persecution, natural disasters, and severe poverty in their home countries. The lucky few live in camps, where attempts are made to provide the basic necessities but disease and hopelessness run rampant.

Those not in the camps are left to fend for themselves, aliens in a foreign land where they often lack food and shelter. Refugees who try to find work are often exploited and many women and children refugees become victims of forced sex trafficking rings.

It is not only important to remember the plight of the refugees, but also to remember those who have reached out to help the refugees. We know that UNHCR, The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, International Rescue Committee, Immigration Refugee Services of America, International Catholic Migration Agency, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Episcopal Migration Ministries, Church World Service, and many others provide tremendous and compassionate support for refugees throughout the world.

We also know that numerous governments have been generous in accepting refugees into their borders, including many in Africa. I would like to take a moment to recognize one of these governments—The Republic of Zambia.

For the last three decades, Zambia has been one of the most generous hosts of refugees in the world. Zambia's history of refugee protection began with its independence in 1964, when it hosted refugees fleeing wars in Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. By 1967, UNHCR was operational in Zambia and remains today, working in partnership to protect refugees. Through the years, Zambia has afforded refugees freedom of movement, access to educational and social services including medical treatment, and land for farming.

In recent years Zambia has generously hosted over 280,000 refugees. Last year, Zambia launched an innovative and collaborative response to under-developed in local communities greatly impacted by large-scale and long-term refugee populations. The United States contributed \$1 million to the "Zambian Initiative" which has worked to integrate long-staying Angolan refugees in Zambia's West Province. By promoting longer-term development of the education, health, environment and agriculture sectors and by allowing refugees and local populations to have equal access to these programs, the Zambian Initiative has offered a model to all countries hosting refugees.

I commend the continuing efforts of the Zambian government in seeking progressive national policies that have helped integrate refugees into their nation. I hope that the generosity of Zambia towards refugees and asylum seekers can be fully recognized by both our government and governments throughout the world. I am confident that they will continue to remain a generous supporter of refugees and hope that other nations will follow their example.

GROWING CONCERNS ABOUT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PATRIOT ACT OF 2001

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, in the immediate aftermath of the September 11th attacks, Congress enacted and the President signed into law the Patriot Act of 2001. As we all know, the country was in a state of shock over the events of September 11th, and the bill was an immediate reaction to that—being drafted, briefly debated, approved, and signed into law by October 26, 2001, a mere six weeks after the attacks.

The Patriot Act is a wide-ranging statute designed, as its stated purpose, to "unite and strengthen America by providing appropriate tools required to intercept and obstruct terrorism." These tools include increased authority to intercept telephone and electronic communications, to conduct surveillance of private citizens, to seize electronic and voice mail messages, to execute and delay notice of the execution of warrants, and to access the business and private records of American citizens and others living in our country. It includes some provisions that most people would not question such as making wiretapping court orders apply to all of a suspect's phone lines.

The Patriot Act also expands the authority of U.S. government intelligence agencies to invoke the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), which was originally enacted to track and capture international spies as distinct from domestic citizens and residents. It is worth noting that FISA surveillance requests in 2002 outnumbered all of those under domestic law for the first time since FISA was enacted.

Although the recognition of terrorist cells (like the hijackers) within our country led Americans to demand stronger action to identify and bring to justice those responsible for the terrorist attacks on our country on September 11th and to prevent any other such tragedy, the balance between liberty and security is notoriously difficult to strike. I voted in favor of the Patriot Act recognizing that, in that period of national anxiety, we would probably get the balance wrong and so I insisted that it incorporate sunset provisions for its most onerous provisions. Accordingly, some of this law's most troubling provisions granting increased police powers to our Federal government will expire at the end of 2005.

Now, nearly 22 months after the September 11th attacks, we should question whether we are more united and strengthened as a Nation in fact? The answer is yes in some ways, but probably not by operation of the Patriot Act. Although 1,200 men were immediately detained following the September 11th attacks on America and more subsequently, only one suspect—Zacarias Moussaoui—is actually being tried for his alleged involvement in those terrorist attacks.

At the same time, substantial numbers of suspects are being held in detention without counsel, without charges having been filed and without trials taking place. Moreover, countless numbers of citizens and legal residents have had assets seized and business transactions interrupted and have suffered many other disruptions in their personal and professional lives. These actions have caused much more widespread public unease and dissension than any feelings of national unity or strength that might result should a suspect actually be tried, convicted and brought to justice through operation of the Patriot Act.

In fact, soon after the initial round-up of detainees, the principal focus of the Bush Administration and many resources were diverted away from using the Patriot Act to find and rout al-Qaeda terrorism cells operating in the United States and around the world to waging and winning the war to topple Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq. This was done even though U.S. intelligence agencies and the Bush White House could not demonstrate any clear and convincing connection between the Iraqi regime and Osama bin Laden, al-Qaeda or the events of September 11th or other ter-

rorist connections to the U.S. that prompted the passage of the Patriot Act in the first place.

So what has the Patriot Act accomplished in terms of increasing the unity and strength of our Nation? 112 cities, counties, and towns across the country have passed resolutions urging federal authorities to show great respect for the rights of our citizens, when carrying out activities designed to fight terrorism and improve homeland security. Just last week, Alaska became the second state after Hawaii to approve a resolution in opposition to key elements of the Patriot Act. The Alaska State legislature is firmly controlled by Republicans, nevertheless they overwhelmingly supported a resolution that "implores the United States Congress to correct provisions in the USA Patriot Act and other measures that infringe on civil liberties, and opposes any pending and future Federal legislation to the extent that it infringes on Americans' civil rights and liberties." In the words of one Alaskan state legislator: "Guys are dying on the battlefield to protect our freedoms. It is up to us to protect those freedoms here at home."

It is altogether fitting that you are gathered in the Princeton Public Library for this forum. I highly commend the sponsors and organizers of this two-part forum. Many organizations and individuals are expressing opposition to the provisions of the Patriot Act that prohibit library personnel from informing patrons if Federal agents have obtained records about their reading habits. In Washington, I was early co-sponsor of legislation sponsored by U.S. Congressman Bernie Sanders to exempt libraries and booksellers from orders requiring that they produce this sort of information about their patrons.

In a similar spirit, more Americans from all walks of life are joining with Muslim Americans and people of Middle Eastern descent to protest nationality-based registrations by the Immigration and Naturalization Bureau, which U.S. Attorney General Ashcroft began ordering last November for all men over 16 years of age in America from Iran, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Sudan, Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Liberia, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

Congressman JAMES SENSENBRENNER, Republican Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, has called for extensive hearings into the uses and implementation of the Patriot Act, expressing serious concerns. I support him in that, although the Bush Administration appears to be stonewalling. I have also personally asked FBI Director Robert Mueller for his account of the need, usefulness, and future justification of the Patriot Act.

But it is having another effect unintended by the strongest supporters of the Patriot Act and who want to see it extended and expanded. It is reminding more Americans daily of the importance of our precious civil liberties and how much more strongly they must be preserved and protected in times of war.

I voted in favor of the Patriot Act with great reservation at the outset, and my reservations have only increased over time. Seeing little evidence that it has increased our security, I expect to oppose any effort to extend those provisions of the current Patriot Act that will expire next year and I will most certainly oppose any effort to strengthen and extend the reach of the Patriot Act with new provisions

that facilitate incursions into and violations of the fundamental civil and constitutional rights of our citizens and other legal residents in America, including proposals to revoke citizenship of people who are thought to give material aid to terrorists. The police and prosecution powers of the government are important and necessary to preserving life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, but they are also the most fearsome powers of government.

#### LEADERS OF TAIWAN'S LEGISLATIVE BRANCH BRIEF CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS IN CAPITOL

### HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2003

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, earlier today Members were honored to be joined by a bipartisan delegation of colleagues from the legislative branch of Taiwan, one of the world's most vibrant democracies. In an event hosted by the Congressional Taiwan Caucus here in the Capitol, President Wang and leaders from the Defense and Foreign Affairs committees of the Legislative Yuan briefed Members on important security, economic and health issues of mutual concern. I greatly welcome such direct exchanges and look forward to more such opportunities in the future.

I commend to my colleagues' attention the impressively candid observations of the leadership of Taiwan's delegation:

PREPARED REMARKS, HONORABLE WANG JIN-PYNG, PRESIDENT LEGISLATIVE YUAN

Members of the Congressional Leadership, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Taiwan Caucus of the United States Congress, it is a distinct privilege and honor to be here in this cradle of democracy with you today.

On behalf of the members of my traveling party of fellow Parliamentarians from your brother democracy in Taipei, permit me to thank you for your time, your interest, and your enduring friendship.

This building, targeted by terrorists, is revered by all citizens of Taiwan. It stands as a beacon for our national cause, for those who believe in the right of all people on this planet to choose their own form of government.

On behalf of the freely elected President of Taiwan, I bring you greetings.

President Chen Shui Bian has asked me to express to you his personal appreciation for the strong support shown by this Caucus—by this entire Congress—for building a strong Taiwan. He particularly asked me to thank you for supporting our efforts to maintain a robust defense. By approving sales of appropriate arms to Taiwan, you aid our ability to deter attack and to provide security for peoples throughout our region. By increasing confidence in our self-defense capabilities, you have helped provide stability in Asia.

Taiwan is moving forward deliberately to secure the resources for our prudent defense procurement program. We deeply appreciate your continued support and that of the Bush Administration.

As President of the Legislative Yuan, the 'congress' in Taiwan, I am honored to represent some twenty three million citizens. On their behalf, I thank you for the support of this Congress—support that has time and again proven essential if we are to continue to live in an open, free and democratic society. Please continue this support—which has brought political liberty, economic freedom

and a vigorous (I can assure you!), a vigorous and energetic free press for Taiwan!

In our Legislative Yuan we have four major parties and one independent group. You will be 'shocked' to know we sometimes quarrel, we shout, we argue, we debate into the night. But on matters concerning the mutual interests of the free people of Taiwan and the United States, we—like you—stand firmly united.

I pledge that we will continue to do all in our power to strengthen US-Taiwan ties and to advance mutual economic, diplomatic and security interests.

On two issues in particular I want to ask your help. Both concern our cousins across the Taiwan Strait, the People's Republic of China.

The people of Taiwan earnestly hope for a dialogue with the authorities in Beijing. We want to discuss matters of health. We want to discuss trade, security, transportation, improving people-to-people exchanges.

We have many issues of common interest to explore with the PRC. There is much we can learn from each other. There is much we can accomplish together. The peoples of the entire region desire peace and security, but there must be a mutual willingness for dialogue. So we ask our friends in the United States to use your important relationship with the authorities in Beijing. Encourage them to engage us in a dialogue unburdened by preconditions. It can only advance the interests of all concerned.

The second issue where we ask your help is in the area of health and Taiwan's international human rights.

Taiwan has weathered a terrible scourge in recent months as SARS swept the region. Lives have been lost. Livelihoods have been threatened. Commerce has been disrupted. People throughout the world have suffered from the PRC's cover-up of the SARS epidemic. At the same time the leaders in Beijing prevented Taiwan from receiving support from WHO, and other countries, by insisting that all assistance had to be approved and channeled through the PRC. Although the PRC could not handle its own problems with SARS it had the audacity to claim it was helping Taiwan, which did not receive anything.

Throughout this time, Taiwan has been seeking to participate in the programs of the World Health Organization. Not as a member state—we recognize that nomenclature would offend some in Beijing—but simply as an observer. Yet the stubborn rejection of our effort by the PRC—their international arm-twisting, bullying and threatening trade partners—has been shameful, a clear violation of Taiwan's international human rights. It is a crystal clear example for all to see of how a dictatorship places power politics above the interests of people—people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait who have suffered. Advice and support from the WHO did not arrive in time because of the PRC's interference. Health should not be a political issue used for gain and punishment. It is a life and death people issue and those who are chosen to govern must look to the people's interests first.

The fact is the SARS crisis will pass. But other health and economic challenges of an interdependent world will surely confront us. Taiwan can make its own contributions to the world's fight against disease, but it cannot be treated as a pariah. The time for the people of Taiwan to secure the benefits of international organizations, especially one as important as the WHO, has surely come. Taiwan's international human rights demand that its people should not be prevented from participating in international organizations and programs that will further their health and welfare and that of the world at large.

Under the landmark Taiwan Relations Act, the U.S. has pledged to work to benefit the welfare and human rights of the free people of Taiwan. I call upon you and your colleagues to hold hearings—consistent with this legislative requirement—on how the U.S. can advance Taiwan's health, human rights and security by pressing for Taiwan's inclusion in appropriate international organizations. We hope the American belief in fair play will encourage you to reach out to other friends and allies and urge their support for Taiwan's place in the community of international organizations.

Dear Friends, let me close with a personal note.

I have been honored by my colleagues and placed in a position of leadership in our national legislature. I have been honored by my president and asked to convey a message to our most important allies. Today, I have even been honored to work in that arsenal of democracy where the fighting forces of freedom are captained, the Pentagon.

But it is a signal honor of my career to be with you here today in the United States Capitol, truly the people's house, where the beacon of liberty shines forth for all around the globe to see.

Thank you so very much. May God bless you, and God bless the American people.

COMMENDING MRS. DEPOALA'S  
FIFTH GRADE CLASS ON THE  
CREATION OF THEIR PEACE  
QUILT

**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to commend the children of Mrs. Sally DePoala's Fifth Grade class at Cahill Elementary School in Saugerties, New York for their contribution to the national dialogue in support of peace and hope. Last Friday I had the good fortune to spend some time with these young people and receive from them a Peace Quilt that they had spent a good part of the year creating. After reading an African folk tale earlier in the year, the students were inspired to create an artistic quilt that expressed their deeply held commitment to peace here in the United States of America and throughout the world. All of the students in the class contributed to the beautiful quilt and asked to present it to me so I may assist them in eventually having it displayed at a memorial for the World Trade Center in New York City.

The tragic events of September 11, 2001 have had a profound effect on the Nation and the world. Together, we have sought out ways to deal with the fear, anger and grief that struck us all on that fateful day. Indeed, we as a nation have come together to find strength in the masses and to recommit ourselves to our families, our communities and our country.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud that the fifth grade students in Mrs. DePoala's class at Cahill Elementary decided to express themselves in this very thoughtful and traditional way. In a simple way, they have profoundly communicated the dream of our future generations to embrace peace and hope and to seek out strength from within our communities. I'm grateful to have been chosen as the messenger of the spirit of these young people and

I will enthusiastically seek to have their wonderful Peace Quilt displayed prominently at the site where the world will remember the tragic events of September 11, 2001. In the meantime, I will proudly display this quilt in my Kingston district office so that our local community can appreciate this profound statement by our future generation.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF BRITTANY ATKINS

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Brittany Amber Atkins of Smyrna, Tennessee, for being chosen as the National Exchange Club Youth of the Year.

Brittany recently graduated from Battle Ground Academy with a 4.1 GPA. Her list of accomplishments while in high school are long. Among the honors and awards Brittany has received are Tennessee District Youth of the Year for the National Exchange Club, Brentwood Exchange Club Youth of the Year, Helen and Ralph Brown School Spirit Award, Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award, President's Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence, Music Medal, Drama Medal and Harvard Book Award.

Brittany was also involved in a host of extracurricular activities, including Student Council, Leadership Council, Speech and Debate, plays, choirs, Students Against Destructive Decisions, Spanish Club, Key Club and Dance Team.

While her awards and extracurricular activities contributed to Brittany becoming the National Exchange Club Youth of the Year, I found her essay, "America's Young Patriots: Believing and Achieving for a Better America," to be most impressive. She writes, "America's future rests in the hearts, dreams, and preparations of these young patriots—no matter race, religion, place of residence, or economic status. It is through the beliefs and achievements of today's youth that America will thrive in the future." Brittany believes patriotism is found within the unlimited opportunities for one's education, profession and service to his or her community.

Brittany concludes her essay by pledging to "concentrate on service before reward, to introduce problems with solutions, and when encountering conflict, to interject love and humor." I commend Brittany for her many accomplishments and awards, and wish her the best of luck in future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING JOE GUNN ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, after 14 years as president of the Texas AFL-CIO, Joe Gunn has announced that he will retire. I rise today to congratulate Joe and to wish him well in his retirement.

Joe Gunn has actively served the workers of the State of Texas for many years.

He went to work for Southwestern Bell in 1949 and joined the Communications Workers of America, Local 6222 on the same day. During his 22 years with Southwestern Bell, Joe spent 11 years in full-time service to Local 6222.

Joe ran for job steward and was easily elected. Within a very short time, he ran for Chief Steward and was again elected. Always looking for more challenges, Joe ran for and was elected first as a vice president and then as president of Local 6222. That is when I met Joe in 1972.

In a short time, Joe was elected and served as a vice president and as the president of the Harris County AFL-CIO.

In January, 1979, Joe was elected as the secretary-treasurer of the Texas AFL-CIO. He served in this capacity until his election as president on July 29, 1989.

But Joe's life has involved more than the CWA or the AFL-CIO. Joe also served for seven years as a Commissioner on the Texas Employment Commission, the precursor to the Texas Workforce Commission. He was first appointed to this position by former Governor Dolph Briscoe.

He has also served his community by holding such positions as vice president of the Harris County United Way, the Houston Council Boy Scouts Executive Council, and youth director of his church.

Joe is married to Dorothy Ann Taylor Gunn. They have ten children, six of which were foster children. He and his wife attend the United Methodist Church in Austin.

Joe Gunn never forgot that his purpose was to improve the working conditions of all Texans. He has always represented workers and has worked tirelessly for a safe workplace, fair pay and respect for all employees, union and non-union.

He is a legend and a force in Texas politics and will not be forgotten or easily replaced.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Joe Gunn for his many years of service and to wish him well in his retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on June 23, I was participating in the World Economic Forum in Amman, Jordan with Congressman JIM KOLBE and other Members of the House and Senate. As a result, I missed four recorded votes.

I take my voting responsibility very seriously and would like the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted yes on recorded vote number 297, yes on recorded vote number 298, yes on recorded vote number 299, and yes on recorded vote 300.

#### HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE OF BILL JONES

### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of

Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Police Commissioner Bill Jones, who will retire from his post on August 31 after 47 years of law enforcement work.

Bill Jones became the police commissioner in my hometown of Murfreesboro 16 years ago. Since then, he has initiated a number of programs that have bolstered law enforcement and enhanced the quality of life in Murfreesboro. My hometown has experienced tremendous growth during Bill's tenure as police commissioner. The police department has doubled in size, but more importantly, the expansion of the department has been an efficient one.

Bill started his career in law enforcement as a Tennessee state trooper shortly after returning home from service in the United States Navy during the Korean conflict. Bill rose through the ranks of the Tennessee Highway Patrol before finally leading the organization as its safety commissioner.

After nearly half a century in law enforcement, Bill has decided to remove the badge and enjoy his family without any distractions. The community of Murfreesboro, as well as the state of Tennessee, has been served well and with distinction by Commissioner Jones. I congratulate him for his tireless, dedicated service to law enforcement and wish him well in his retirement.

#### EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF ALGERIAN EARTHQUAKE

### HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of H. Res. 264 expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake in Algeria on May 21, 2003.

Natural disasters, such as earthquakes, can wreak havoc in a community or nation.

At times like these, it is vital to come to the support and aid of our friends.

I am pleased that our nation has assisted the Algerians in the emergency phase of their response to the earthquake and I encourage our government to support the Algerians as they seek to rebuild their homes and communities.

Algeria is an important partner and friend of the United States in many respects, not the least of which is in the war against terror—the Algerians have experienced the horrors of terrorism in their own land for many years.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

#### TRIBUTE TO PUEBLO COMMUNITY

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize an academic institution that has served Pueblo, Colorado for the last 70 years. Pueblo Community College (PCC) has maintained its focus on quality education over the course of a lifetime

as it has expanded to meet the state's needs. As we reflect upon this 70th anniversary, I commend Pueblo Community College for the positive impact that it has had upon individuals and families throughout the State of Colorado.

Pueblo Community College traces its origins back to the incorporation of Southern Colorado Junior College in 1933. Since the original graduating class of 17 in 1935, enrollment at PCC has increased enough to warrant expanding to three additional campuses in Cañon City, Durango, and Cortez. The total enrollment in PCC now exceeds 5,000 students, all of whom value PCC's affordability, flexible hours, and varied degree programs.

More than half of Pueblo Community College's students are employed and would not have access to higher education if not for the flexibility offered by Pueblo Community College. Students at PCC have the opportunity to work toward Certificates of Completion, Associate of Science, Associate of Arts, Associate of General Studies, and Associate of Applied Science degrees. The assortment of programs allows first-time college students and working adults alike the opportunity for a brighter future.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Pueblo Community College before this body of Congress and this nation. PCC provides many Coloradans access to higher education and the skills necessary for a successful career. I congratulate Pueblo Community College on its success and commend the institution for the positive impact that it has made upon Colorado's citizens for the past 70 years.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, on June 23, 2003, due to flight delays, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 297, 298, 299, and 300. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all four votes.

#### IN REGARD TO MR. CHARLES MULCAHY

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Wisconsin native Mr. Charles Mulcahy for his nomination by HM King Albert II of Belgium to become a Knight in the Order of Leopold.

Mr. Mulcahy has served with distinction as Honorary Consul of Belgium since 1985. He has provided guidance to the development of bilateral economic, commercial, cultural, scientific and educational relations, assisted Belgian citizens, and promoted Belgian interests over the past 15 years.

Mr. Mulcahy has been an active participant in business and economic development matters for over 25 years. He is a senior partner with the law firm of Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and is known for his

representation of commercial business concerns, from initial organizations, capital formation, developing strategic alliances and joint ventures between Wisconsin companies and overseas business interests. He has guided numerous companies through various growth and development phases involved in building a business. He has worked closely with businesses on their legal matters, including negotiating distributor agreements and establishing subsidiary or branch operations for clients throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, and serves on the Board of many companies engaged in international trade.

Mr. Mulcahy's leadership in the area of world trade is reflected in his role as founder of the Wisconsin World Trade Center (WWTC) in 1987. He served as the initial President of WWTC and continues to serve as a member of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. Mr. Mulcahy is past president of the Milwaukee World Trade Association and is also past chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Institute of World Affairs of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Mr. Mulcahy's record of service to Wisconsin businesses and to the Belgian of is distinguished and worthy of praise. His nomination to become a Knight in the Order of Leopold is truly deserved.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH HAVEN LIGHTHOUSE

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial of one of southwest Michigan's most famous landmarks: the three-story red lighthouse located in the beautiful community of South Haven. Artifacts such as this lighthouse are of tremendous historical value. These symbols of our heritage stand as a remembrance for generations to come. This 11-foot wide, 36-foot tall structure was constructed in 1903. Its red-case iron structure has always been one of its defining characteristics, making it easily identifiable to lighthouse enthusiasts and area historians. In fact, a new book has been published by the Michigan Maritime Museum depicting history of this lighthouse in honor of its 100th anniversary. As all folks who live, work, or grew up on the shores of Lake Michigan know, lighthouses provide an invaluable service to communities and commerce of the Great Lakes. I am proud that the South Haven lighthouse has reached its 100th anniversary and I am hopeful that it will survive 100 years more.

TRIBUTE TO DANNY GALLACHER

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the life of Danny Gallacher who recently passed away. A long-time resident of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, Danny made significant contributions to his

community as a leader and role model for others.

Danny and Mary raised four boys, eventually enlisting their help in running a number of family business ventures, which included a service station and a diner that eventually became a full-service restaurant and bar. One of Danny's major contributions to his community was his service as a counselor at the drug and alcohol detoxification center he helped establish.

Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I recognize the life and passing of Danny Gallacher. Danny will be especially missed by his family, friends, and the many people who knew him in the Glenwood Springs community. My thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time.

TRIBUTE TO BOB STUMP

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply saddened by the loss of a former colleague, friend, and mentor, the Honorable Bob Stump of Arizona. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Nancy, his children, Karen, Hoot, and Bruce, as well as his grandchildren, other family members and friends who loved him.

From his enlistment in the Navy during World War II at the age of 16, to his extraordinary leadership as chairman of the Veterans' Affairs and Armed Services Committees in the House of Representatives, Bob Stump was a true American hero.

Bob Stump served with distinction in Congress for 26 years, including 6 years as chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and 2 years as chairman of the committee on Armed Services. Chairman Stump used his influence to promote responsible legislation to assist and honor our nation's veterans.

Under Bob Stump's leadership, Congress increased funding for veterans health care; expanded access to long term care for aging veterans, including nonhospital alternative care; reformed eligibility standards for access to VA health care; extended the national cemetery system, including Arlington National Cemetery; increased assistance to disabled veterans and their survivors; and strengthened the Montgomery GI Bill that has helped millions of veterans fulfill their educational and career goals.

A modest man who preferred to shun the spotlight, Bob Stump's life and his legacy will continue to shine brightly for generations of service men and women to come.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Stump was the chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs from 1995-2000, and its ranking minority member for the 2 previous years. He served as a member of the Committee for a total of 14 years. During his tenure as chairman, he compiled a distinguished record of legislation that is a major part of his legacy of public service. As his successor as chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I particularly know and appreciate all that he did for our Nation's veterans, servicemembers and their families by working on a bipartisan basis in cooperation with veterans' service organizations. I want to

take this opportunity to recall the major veterans' legislation he authored, because Bob Stump was not one to trumpet his accomplishments.

In 1996, Chairman Stump initiated and Congress passed important health care eligibility reforms for veterans that removed barriers to outpatient care and allowed greater flexibility to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in paying for care closer to veterans' homes. The savings generated by shifting away from inpatient care and budget increases Bob supported were used to increase ambulatory care visits in fiscal year 2000 to more than 40 million total outpatient visits nationwide, an increase of 5.3 million outpatient visits per year over 1997. As a result of this legislation, the VA established hundreds of new community-based outpatient clinics throughout the Nation to improve veterans' access to health care.

In 1998, Bob Stump initiated and Congress passed the largest benefits expansion for veterans since the Persian Gulf war, including: allowing spouses of veterans who died from a service-connected disability to resume receiving assistance under the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation program if their subsequent remarriage ended; increasing adaptive housing and automobile allowances; increasing the monthly pension benefit for disabled veterans in need of the full time aid and attendance of another person by \$600 per year; and increasing the monthly Montgomery GI Bill payment from \$440 to \$528, a 20-percent increase.

Then in 2000, our former chairman initiated and Congress passed the landmark Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act, popularly known by many veterans as the Millennium Act, the most comprehensive benefits improvement legislation in decades. Some of its more significant provisions included: mandating nursing home and long-term care for seriously disabled veterans; allowing the VA to pay for emergency care for veterans lacking access to other health care plans; improving priority health care access for Purple Heart recipients and military retirees; improving benefits for surviving spouses of disabled veterans; and increasing programs providing employment and housing assistance to homeless veterans.

Also, Bob Stump greatly appreciated the value of education, and initiated Montgomery GI Bill benefits enhancements that increased the value of the monthly education benefit for veterans by nearly \$100 per month to \$650. The resulting 4-year total basic benefit of \$23,400 for a full-time student at a 4-year institution in the year 2000 was almost 50 percent higher than it was in 1997. This law also contained provisions that allowed servicemembers to contribute more up front to achieve an \$800 per month benefit, and it provided active duty servicemembers a new opportunity to convert their post-Vietnam Era Veterans Educational Assistance Program benefits to the Montgomery GI Bill if they had not done so before or had withdrawn all the funds from their VEAP accounts.

Bob Stump had a particular interest in the national cemetery system, and worked for its expansion. Thanks to his efforts while he was chairman, five new national veterans' cemeteries were opened, adding approximately 835,000 gravesites to our national cemetery capacity. Additionally, legislation he sponsored was enacted to require the VA to plan 6 new

national cemeteries in Atlanta, Miami, Pittsburgh, Oklahoma, Sacramento, and Detroit. He also authorized legislation to expand the boundaries of Arlington National Cemetery, extending its useful life beyond the projected closing date of 2025 so that in-ground burials of veterans can continue until approximately the year 2041.

Mr. Speaker, this impressive record of legislative accomplishment has resulted in immeasurable good for veterans, servicemembers and their families. Bob Stump's leadership was the strongest kind—leadership by example. His lifetime of service to America left this country a better place, and I am honored to have served in the House with our departed colleague, Bob Stump.

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MR. STUMP, IT WAS AN HONOR TO  
KNOW YOU

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor a great American, a great Congressman and my friend, Mr. Bob Stump of Arizona.

Like my colleagues, my memories of Bob reflect an honest individual, and as true as the day is long. His departure last year was difficult, his death—sad.

I first met Mr. Stump when I was running for Congress. My predecessor brought me around to show me the Committee on Armed Services and to meet those I hoped would be my colleagues.

Bob, the chairman of the Armed Services, took a few minutes to visit, shared a few thoughts on his experience in Congress and we snapped a photo. It's kind of funny now, but that picture was used in my campaign brochure. One of my opponents was outraged that I would use the photo. He managed to call Chairman Stump, making him aware of the photo. He further asked Bob if he had endorsed me. Put in the corner, asked to judge

me by the few minutes we visited or to judge my opponent by the call he was now taking. Mr. Stump told my opponent yes, yes he would endorse me.

Of course we laughed about that story a couple of times but we always had plenty to talk about. Both Mr. Stump and my family were cotton farmers. We would talk about farming methods, the weather, a very easy give and take.

Every Thursday, at the prayer breakfast, Mr. Stump would be there in his western suit, boots and a smile, pouring coffee. Not a cup in the house was dry with Bob around. It was his job; it was something he wanted to do, he was a public servant.

I am fortunate to have known Bob Stump. I was fortunate to serve under his chairmanship on Armed Services and to now serve under his portrait in both the Veterans' Affairs Committee and the Armed Services Committee. It is as if he is always looking over my shoulder, making sure my decisions are the right ones.

Mr. Stump's commitment to the warfighter is to be emulated. He was a shining example of a statesman and a fantastic public servant. A good man has left this Earth and we are going to miss him. I honestly believe that the House of Representatives, the institution and this country is better today due to Bob Stump's efforts. It was an honor to know you, Mr. Chairman.

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TRIBUTE TO THE LATE  
CONGRESSMAN BOB STUMP

**HON. TERRY EVERETT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2003*

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I learned of the passing of recently-retired Arizona Congressman Bob Stump. Bob was not only a senior statesman and a great patriot, but he was a good friend.

Bob was tough and hard working, always willing to do more than his share. The day after his sixteenth birthday, he enlisted in the

Navy and later joined American forces in the World War II liberation of the Philippines and the invasion of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. After the war, he came home to attend Arizona State University and try his hand at cotton farming. His work ethic and humble nature served him well in politics.

Bob's long and distinguished career of public service spanned 40 years beginning with the Arizona State House of Representatives and Senate and ending as a senior member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Despite becoming the "dean" of Arizona congressional delegation and chairing the House Veterans' Affairs and Armed Services Committees, Bob preferred a low-key style. He was often seen opening constituent mail and answering the phone.

Nevertheless, Bob was effective. No member of the House Armed Services Committee could have performed as well as he in shepherding critical funding increases for our military after nearly a decade of neglect by the Clinton Administration. The 2003 defense budget appropriately bore his name: "The Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act."

One of the highlights of my career was serving as the chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations while Bob was full chairman of the House VA Committee. Under his watch, we made great strides in overseeing the protection and well-being of the nation's 26 million veterans.

Bob was not afraid to take a stand when he knew it was in the nation's best interest. I'm reminded of the time he took to the floor to sternly defend the American flag in the face of court protection of desecration. "Anyone who burns a flag will have to deal with me," he warned.

As someone who regularly joined Bob for dinner, I was aware that he was suffering health problems which led to his retirement decision last year. I, and many others in the House, will miss his friendship. My condolences go out to Bob's family, friends, and former constituents.