

this exchange. Under the Federal Land Policy Management Act, a permittee shall receive a "reasonable" compensation from the federal government if an action by the federal government, including disposal, cancels the permit. My goal in including this language is to properly address the possible hardship and injustice that could occur as a result of this exchange.

Mr. Speaker, my intent in introducing this legislation is to assist communities in northern Arizona in providing affordable housing and economic opportunities, while preserving the pristine areas of our forests for wildlife and recreation. The introduction of this legislation today represents another step in the legislative process. As a whole, this exchange will benefit the public, the many communities and camps in northern Arizona that will receive opportunities for future economic development, and the natural beauty of the Yavapai Ranch.

HONORING THE GROUNDBREAKING
FOR THE NEW CLARK COUNTY
REGIONAL CANCER CENTER

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a very positive development in health care for the residents of Springfield and Clark County, which are in the 7th Congressional District of Ohio. Federal, state and local officials and representatives from our two local hospitals are set to break ground on a new outpatient regional cancer center.

For years, I had heard from local health care providers and residents about how frustrating it was not having a local modern facility to perform outpatient cancer treatments.

With two outstanding health care centers already available in Springfield, it seemed strange to many people who needed basic oncology services to have to drive to Dayton, Columbus or even Cincinnati.

Traveling long distances to receive cancer treatment can be burdensome for a patient and his or her family, especially if they are elderly or have mobility problems.

I was able to work with my good friend Congressman RALPH REGULA of Navarre, who is the Chairman of the Labor/Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee, to secure \$1 million in federal funds for the establishment of this outpatient regional cancer center.

This funding helped to lay the groundwork for the construction of this new facility to improve the level of health care for the citizens of Springfield and Clark County.

This effort is a true public-private partnership that has brought together Mercy Health Partners, The Community Hospital, the Ohio EPA and the federal EPA.

Until that great day when there is a simple and affordable cure for the scourge known as cancer, it is vitally important that communities like Springfield have the best possible infrastructure to provide care.

This new cancer center will have a key role to play in our health care community and I was pleased to be able to support this worthwhile effort in Congress.

As the Congressman who represents Springfield and Clark County in the U.S.

House of Representatives, I offer my sincere congratulations on this great achievement and look forward to the day when we will be able to dedicate the finished facility.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Chairman, Head Start works just fine the way it is. Why the Republicans want to change something that has been proven to work, just to put their name on it, is just ridiculous. Head Start works fine just the way it is. One of my constituents, Eddie Moore, and all of his brothers went on to college after being in Head Start. He also went on to play professional football and now he is an extremely successful business man.

Head Start is one of the most important education programs for low income children, and it is tragic that the House Republican leadership is set on dismantling it. The plan is not just to completely underfund the program, but to block grant the funding!

You know, Head Start kids are very prepared and do better in school than low-income children who don't receive Head Start. It's been proven that Head Start narrows the readiness gap between Head Start kids and children from the more affluent side of the tracks. Head Start should help children arrive at school more ready to learn—and it does just that—very successfully.

My best advice to the Republican leadership is: if it ain't broken, don't fix it, and more importantly, don't brake it! I strongly urge a "no" vote on this bill.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2210, the Majority's plan to reauthorize the Head Start program. While this bill makes a number of bipartisan improvements to the program, I am gravely concerned that the block grant pilot project included in this plan is the first step toward dismantling the successful Head Start program that we know today.

Over the last few months, I have traveled throughout North Dakota and heard compelling stories from Head Start teachers, volun-

teers and parents attesting to the success of this program in my state. More than just teaching children valuable early literacy skills, the program also encourages self-confidence, spontaneity, curiosity and self-discipline in its young pupils. In addition, Head Start recognizes the important role of parents and families in a child's empowerment by focusing on the educational, vocational and material needs of the entire family. While these aspects of the program are not easily quantified, they greatly enhance future learning potential, as well as overall development.

The plan before us today gravely endangers these comprehensive services that are—in my view—key to Head Start's success. Block granting Head Start to the states would result in a patchwork of untested state preschool programs across the country, many of which may lower educational standards, minimize comprehensive services, and provide less oversight and accountability. As it stands now, there is not a single state preschool program in the country that provides comprehensive services in accordance with Head Start standards. Equally alarming, states that are struggling with their own budget crises right now may be tempted to divert scarce Head Start dollars toward other programs once placed in their hands.

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that we have a real opportunity with this reauthorization process to effect some positive changes for this exceptional program. We should concentrate on proposals that improve and build upon this tried-and-true program—like increasing access or enhancing teacher qualifications. I urge my colleagues to join me in taking steps to ensure the integrity of this program as the reauthorization process moves forward.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BRYAN DE-
BATES—TIME WARNER CABLE
CRYSTAL APPLE TEACHER
AWARD

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bryan DeBates, an inspirational and loving teacher in San Antonio, Texas. As a 5th grade teacher at Timberwilde Elementary School, Bryan DeBates dedicates his life to the success and education of his students. His outstanding work in the classroom was recognized by Time Warner Cable and given the Crystal Apple Teacher Award.

Each year, Time Warner Cable honors 20 classroom projects and the teachers who develop them with the Crystal Apple Teacher Award. This award recognizes outstanding teachers who create learning experiences using cable technology. Mr. DeBates' project involved a space experiment that used electrical circuits to repair and operate a space station. Thanks to the innovation and creativity of Mr. Bryan DeBates many 5th grade students learned how electrical circuits work within the confines of a space station.

Time Warner Cable seeks ways to support the educators and institutions that help shape our nation. Time Warner Cable strives to enhance the level of education in the classroom by expanding the power of cable television's