

leases to protections of the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act. Earlier this year, the House passed a restatement of this important legislation. I believe my legislation adds an important provision that should not be left unaddressed.

I would like to share with you a story of a young Marine reservist, currently attending Emory Law School. He was called to active duty as part of the recent mobilization and was then forced to take a leave from school. He didn't have a problem with this, it was part of his duty. However, he was concerned that he was going to suffer a financial loss because of his car lease. Being unmarried, he would not need a vehicle while deployed, but because of his lease he would still have to pay a monthly payment. His other option was to buy the car from the credit company and then turn around and sell it, even though this would cause him to lose money. Because he knew that activated reservists could terminate an apartment lease, he contacted my subcommittee wanting to know if this applied to automobiles as well. Under current law it does not.

Although our estimates are that this probably only affected a couple of hundred service members during the most recent deployment, I think that is far too many. In an age when we have come to increasingly rely on our National Guard and Reserves, for them to be susceptible to this type of penalty is absurd. When we ask our men and women of the National Guard and Reserve Components to interrupt their lives go off to war, one thing they should not have to worry about is paying an additional price relating to an auto lease. I also want to thank the Auto Alliance for its input on and openness to this bill. As both a current member of the U.S. Army Reserves and Co-Chair of the National Guard and Reserve Components Caucus, I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation.

CHICAGO SPORTS HALL OF
FAMER—EDWARD A. SPRINKLE—
CELEBRATES HIS 80TH BIRTH-
DAY

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 5, 2003

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to pay tribute to an outstanding member of my community, Edward A. Sprinkle, in honor of celebrating his 80th birthday on September 3, 2003.

Edward Sprinkle was born and raised in Bradshaw, Texas and attended Tuscola High School where he started his long career in one of nation's greatest pastimes, football. In 1943, Edward Sprinkle entered the United States Naval Academy; however in 1944, he was recruited by the hailed Chicago Bears.

From 1944 to 1956, Sprinkle entertained many with his talents on the football field. Sprinkle was honored with the NFL All League Award six times throughout his career, played in four pro bowls, has been honored as one of

the top 300 players in the NFL, and has also been inducted into the Chicago Sports Hall of Fame and the Helms Football Hall of Fame.

Besides his greatest achievements on the football field, Edward Sprinkle has many things to be thankful for off the field too. Edward Sprinkle was happily married to his lovely bride Marian Elizabeth Carlson for 57 years. Edward and Marian have three children, Edward Alan Sprinkle, Robert Steven Sprinkle and Susan Jane (Zima) Withers. They have five grandchildren: Steven, Alan, Jennifer, Elizabeth, and Paul, and two great-grandchildren: Steven and Jacob. Edward Sprinkle has worked for Inland Steel and owned his own company too, Ed Sprinkle Tile Company.

Mr. Speaker, I feel honored to be able to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Edward Sprinkle and his family as they celebrate Edward's 80th Birthday and continue to share in the many memories of football and wonderful family milestones.

TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2989) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2989, the Transportation-Treasury spending bill for fiscal year 2004. While there are several important provisions in this legislation that I support, the bill also includes a provision that encroaches on the jurisdiction of the Financial Services Committee and undermines the public policy goals of the landmark Gramm-Leach-Bliley financial modernization law.

Title I of Gramm-Leach-Bliley, which Congress approved in 1999, allows financial holding companies and banks to engage in a broad range of activities that are considered "financial in nature" or complementary to such financial activities. In addition, GLB grants the Federal Reserve Board and the Treasury Department the ability to identify additional activities that they deem to be financial in nature or incidental to such activities, and therefore permissible for financial holding companies and financial subsidiaries.

Over two years ago, the Federal Reserve and the Treasury, acting under their grant of authority in GLB, issued a regulatory proposal to permit banks to conduct real estate brokerage and management activities. The National Association of Realtors, in an attempt to avoid a new source of competition and preserve their monopoly in the real estate brokerage business, launched a scorched earth lobbying campaign to derail the Fed-Treasury proposal. Bowing to this pressure, the Appropriations Committee has now adopted in two succes-

sive appropriations cycles language that prohibits the Federal Reserve and the Treasury from moving forward with their proposal, thereby denying consumers greater choices in obtaining real estate brokerage services and the benefits of increased market competition.

Legislative attempts to stymie the rule-making process—particularly as part of the appropriations process—are counterproductive and undermine the future of any legislation that relies on the expert judgment of regulators for its implementation. The amendment that the Appropriations Committee has chosen to include in this bill serves only to needlessly delay innovation in the financial services industry and runs contrary to the clear congressional intent of GLB, which was to encourage free market competition and increase consumer choice.

COMMEMORATING AND CONGRATULATING THE TEAMSTERS UNION ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 5, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, it is more than appropriate on this Friday afternoon of Labor Day Week that we recognize the enduring relevance and enormous contributions of the Teamsters Union, which tomorrow—September 6, 2003—celebrates its 100th Anniversary. It is an historical imperative that every American committed to justice and fairness must acknowledge.

Allow me to congratulate General President James Hoffa and all the men and women of the Teamsters on this important occasion. For through their hard work, all of us have benefited.

The 40-hour work week that we take for granted far too often in this nation was not a gift bestowed on us by corporate chieftains. It was a hard-won victory secured by the men and women in the organized labor movement, including the Teamsters Union, who literally built this nation through their blood, sweat and tears.

Paid holidays, including the three-day Labor Day Weekend. Health and safety regulations. Employer-sponsored health care. And employer-sponsored pensions. These are just a few of the monumental benefits brought to you by the Teamsters and organized labor movement.

Ever since its founding, the Teamsters have been at the forefront of the labor movement to improve the lives of working men and women and their families. The Teamsters fought for equal rights for all workers, regardless of race, creed or gender. The Teamsters fought for African-Americans who sought jobs traditionally held by white men at the beginning of World War One. The Teamsters fought for a woman's right to equal pay before suffrage was popular.

Today, the Teamsters Union—with 1.4 million members—continues to fight for working families, who simply want and deserve justice, dignity and opportunity. Only the uninformed would fail to recognize that many of the gains secured by the Teamsters over the past 100 years are at grave risk today—from the assault on the right of workers to collectively bar-

gain, to attacks on overtime regulations, to the effort to gut compensatory time, to the failure to ensure that the minimum wage is fairly adjusted for inflation, and many more.

It's clear that, despite the Teamsters' great achievements over the last century, and all the advances that this great union is responsible for, its efforts on behalf of working American

families must go on. And I know that is precisely what the Teamsters—under the tremendous leadership of General President Hoffa—intend.

Again, I congratulate President Hoffa and all Teamsters on this 100th Anniversary. Your efforts not only make us proud, they make us a better nation.