Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1446, a bill that would allocate badly needed funds to the restoration of California’s missions. California’s 21 missions are an integral part of California’s historical landscape and their preservation for future generations is imperative. They serve as a window into the settlement of the American West and are key aspects of California’s history, education, and tourism.

Drawing over 5.5 million tourists a year, the California Missions are the most visited historic attractions in the state. They account for a sizable contribution to the state economy from millions of tourists, including a large number of international visitors.

The missions also play an essential role in educating fourth-grade school children under the statewide history curriculum. California missions serve an important educational function.
in teaching young students about the role of the missions in the history of our nation.

Contrary to widespread belief, 19 of California’s 21 missions are not funded by any governmental agency and instead rely on charitable donations to keep their doors open. They are in serious need of repair, restoration, and preservation for future generations.

Until recent efforts by the California Missions Foundation, little had been done to preserve the mission’s structures and art. Because of this long-term neglect, many of the missions are now in dire need of structural attention and major rehabilitation.

The legislation would provide $10 million for the restoration effort in a Department of the Interior grants program to be administered over five years. By authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to make matching grants to the California Missions Foundation, we are preserving the missions while keeping in mind the current state of the budget.

This act enjoys nearly unanimous, bipartisan support among California’s congressional delegation. It will support the efforts of the California Missions Foundation to restore and repair the Spanish colonial and mission-era missions in the State of California. I urge all my colleagues to ensure that the missions remain intact, as unshakable symbols of our nation’s history as he worked tirelessly to raise the level of consciousness in the State of California. I urge all my colleagues to ensure that the missions remain intact, as unshakable symbols of our nation’s early discovery.

IN RECOGNITION OF B.E. MCKINNEY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 32ND ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF GREATER EBENEZER MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, TALLADEGA, AL

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Pastor B.E. McKinney on the occasion of his 32nd anniversary as Pastor of Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, in Talladega, Alabama.

Pastor McKinney has led Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church since 1971 and has nurtured it into a caring, compassionate and charitable church home. Under his leadership, the church has produced many successful, mindful, God-fearing, community-oriented citizens. Pastor McKinney, through his generosity, leadership, guidance, mentoring and example has shaped the lives of a number of young people. For example, a church organization formed under his ministry, called the “Crusaders” has sponsored after-school activities, guidance, leadership and mentoring for young boys who come from socio-economically challenged, single-parent households.

Mr. Speaker, it is often said that the measure of a man’s worth is the impact he has on others. In this measure, Pastor McKinney stands tall. I congratulate him and his devoted wife, Alma, for their faithful and dedicated service to their church and community.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF F/LT. JOSEPH P. ZANGARO, MICHIGAN STATE POLICE BRIDGMAN POST

HON. FRED UPTON
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to F/Lt. Joseph P. Zangaro, who is approaching the end of a long and distinguished career in law enforcement. The Battle Creek native began his law enforcement career in 1976 with the Calhoun County Sheriff Department in Marshall, MI as a road patrol deputy. After a brief stint with the Battle Creek Township Police Department, Zangaro entered the 94th Michigan State Police Recruit School. He has served the residents of southwest Michigan with great distinction ever since.

F/Lt. Zangaro’s contributions to our community over the last 27 years have been tremendous. From post to post, he consistently received accolades and recognition along the way including. Among the highlights of his storied career include being named Benton Harbor Exchange Club Trooper of the Year in 1985 and in 1994 Zangaro earned a “Professional Excellence” award for his part in an armed robbery investigation.

He has been successful keeping drugs away from our children and keeping drunk drivers off the road. Just this year he was on the ground, restoring the peace after the uprising in Benton Harbor.

From overseeing one of biggest undercover drug operations in the State of Michigan, Zangaro contributions to our community have been many, and we are all better off from his service.

Our community is in debt to F/Lt. Joseph P. Zangaro for his 27 years in law enforcement, 25 of which were with the Michigan State Police. I wish him and his family all the best in retirement. He will truly be missed by the folks in southwest Michigan.

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise before this body of Congress and this Nation today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen from Colorado. Father John Leonard O’Shea of Denver, Colorado recently passed away at the age of sixty-nine. John faithfully served his community throughout his life as a member of the Denver Police Department and later as a Catholic Priest. For his years of service and dedication, I am honored to pay tribute to the life and memory of Father O’Shea here today.

John joined the Denver Police Department in 1961 and served in many different positions including patrol, first as a member of the Denver Police Department and later as a Catholic Priest. For his years of service and dedication, I am honored to pay tribute to the life and memory of Father O’Shea here today.

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Mr. Speaker, I was deeply saddened when I learned of the passing on October 12, of Eddie James Gibson, 57, of Edison, Georgia, one of the most highly committed, courageous and inspiring citizens I have ever known.

The son of sharecroppers, Mr. Gibson was horrifically injured at the age of 15 when the tractor he was operating overturned on the land farmed by his family. He spent years in hospitals, undergoing countless operations and receiving intense therapy. His life was saved, but he was left permanently paralyzed.

After he was finally able to return home to Calhoun County, he quickly demonstrated that he had no intention of giving up and sinking into despair. Even though severely handicapped, he decided to do something about the poverty and injustices that he saw around him. He became involved in the civil rights movement, organizing efforts to increase voter participation and bring down the racial barriers that then existed. Even though wheelchair bound, he never hesitated to put himself on the movement’s front lines.

Later, he became president of the Calhoun County NAACP, a member of the Edison City Council, and a member of the Calhoun County School Board. He was active in voter registration, and was incredibly effective in motivating people to exercise their rights as citizens. Although a member of the Enon Missionary Baptist Church, he helped a number of churches in the area with their fund raising and enhancement programs. He was always involved in civic and charitable activities.

Many people came to him with problems. Armed with a telephone, he was effective in getting many of them resolved. We worked with him on many cases, and found it to be a highly productive relationship. I visited with him often, and was always uplifted by his good humor and positive outlook that he invariably reflected in spite of any pain and discomfort he may have been feeling.

With sharp intelligence and strength of character, he overcame all of the adversities of a hardscrabble upbringing, of the discrimination he encountered, of the lifelong injuries he sustained as a teenager—rising to become one of the most prominent citizens in Calhoun County’s history as he worked tirelessly to raise the