IN HONOR OF THE DEPARTURE OF DR. MIKE MOSES FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT POST AT THE DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay a special tribute to an admired colleague and dear friend of mine, Dr. Mike Moses, as he departs from the Superintendent post of the Dallas Independent School District. Mike is not only admired by those in Dallas, but commands the respect of his peers throughout the state.

Dr. Moses' dedication to educating our youth is evidenced by his service to the Dallas Independent School District and as the Texas Commissioner of Education under then Governor George W. Bush. Mike has presided over years of improvement and progress for the district. During his tenure, the Dallas Independent School District passed the largest school bond issue in Texas, providing $1.37 billion for 20 schools, 40 additions and renovations to 218 existing campuses in the district. Mike is rightly credited with improving the district's accountability ratings, reducing the number of low-performing schools by half. Mike Moses' service has been truly outstanding and for that I wish to thank him here on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

It has been my honor and pleasure to work with him over the last several years, and I know I speak for the entire Dallas ISD staff, faculty, and administration when I say he will be greatly missed. I wish Mike, and his family, all the very best as they move into the next stage of their life.

TITLE I FUNDING FLEXIBILITY

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of legislation introduced by my friend and Virginia colleague Congressman TOM DAVIS to address needed flexibility in the Title I education program. Title I provides the majority of federal education money; however, these education dollars are tied to arbitrary thresholds of needy students.

A school district can go from just above the threshold to just below with the change of only a couple of percentage points. This means that the increase or loss of only a few needy students can bring a significant windfall of new federal money to a district or can devastate a school district that has received federal funds for years.

In northern Virginia there is one such district. Fairfax County, one of the largest school districts in the country, will likely lose nearly $3 million because of a loss of only a handful of qualifying students. The most recent census-defined poverty rates have dropped the county's population from just above 5 percent to just below 5 percent leaving the school district ineligible for most Title I federal funding. For years, Fairfax County School District has received Title I federal funds because more than 5 percent of the students were below the census-defined poverty rate.

While there are other school districts throughout the country facing similar difficulties, Fairfax County, which serves over 150,000 students, is the largest school division to be dropped out of eligibility for Title I grant programs and stands to lose the most money.

This legislation introduced today would provide school districts like Fairfax County with a multi-year phase down of these funds. This multi-year phase down will allow school districts time to plan for students' educational future. This flexibility would be particularly helpful for Fairfax County School District where the number of students below the poverty rate dropped by a such a small number.

Despite this current situation, Fairfax will maintain its commitment to education success and will have the same number of schoolwide Title I programs in the coming school year as it did before.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF SENATOR EDWARD M. ''EDDIE'' CALVO

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of one of the pillars of our community, businessman and former Guam Senator Edward M. ''Eddie'' Calvo, who passed away yesterday on September 14, 2004.

Eddie Calvo was born on March 8, 1936. He was husband to Frances Calvo and father to Eduardo, John, Joseph, Leonard, and Carmen Calvo. He was also a grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, godfather, and friend.

In his capacity as a businessman, Eddie Calvo was Vice-President of Calvo Enterprises, Chairman of the Board of Calvo's Insurance and President of EC Development. He was in charge of both Pay-Less Markets, Guam's largest retail grocery chain, and Calvo's Insurance, Guam's oldest and largest insurance agency. In 1996, he was honored as the Guam Business News Executive of the Year, recognizing his very important role in the success of Calvo Enterprises.

However, his impact on the community has extended well beyond his role as a businessman. He followed in the footsteps of his father Edwardo T. Calvo, who served in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Guam Legislature, to win a seat in the 14th Guam Legislature. After leaving elected office, Eddie Calvo continued public service in his capacity on the Guam Telephone Authority board and Guam Election Commission board, among other endeavors. Other notable family members who have been public servants include his brother Paul Calvo, who was Governor of Guam from 1979–1982, and his nephew Eddie Baza Calvo, who has served in the Guam Legislature.

I have known Eddie Calvo to always be a kind, outgoing, and friendly person. Our families have been very close over the years, and I have known him since I was a young girl growing up in Guam. His service in the public and private sector has been steadfast through good times and bad, and his intelligence and vision have served him well in both capacities.

Though we mourn his death, we honor his life by living by his example. On behalf of the people of Guam, I extend our deepest sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of this prominent island leader, Eddie Calvo.

HONORING NORTH CAROLINA SUPERINTENDENT MIKE WARD

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the contributions of North Carolina's outgoing Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Mike Ward.

Dr. Ward was elected State Superintendent in 1996, the first year that schools were scrutinized under North Carolina's ABCs accountability program. The Federal No Child Left Behind law was enacted a year after Dr. Ward began his second term, adding another layer of scrutiny and accountability. Dr. Ward used these challenges as opportunities to raise student achievement, while advocating for improvements in the Federal law—including more adequate funding—so that its purposes might be more fully achieved. It is fitting that on his last day in office he was able to announce that North Carolina's average on the SAT had reached a new high and had closed within 20 points of the national score.

During his eight years as the State's chief elected education leader, Dr. Ward relied heavily on his experience as a local superintendent—which earned him North Carolina's Superintendent of the Year Award—and as a teacher and high school principal. He was a tireless advocate for teachers and other school employees, promoting high standards, better compensation, and opportunities for professional development. Dr. Ward believed strongly in the power of teaching and learning, and he regularly set aside time to be in the classroom working with students.

Dr. Ward was respected by his peers and was selected President of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), whose members include State superintendents and education commissioners from across the country. He used this opportunity to raise North Carolina's profile as a leader in improving student performance and school accountability.

I am pleased to join my fellow North Carolinians in thanking Mike Ward for his conscientious and effective service: He leaves our schools stronger, our teachers better equipped, and our students better trained than they were when he started. I wish Dr. Ward and his wife, the Reverend Hope Morgan Ward, all the best as they make the transition from North Carolina to Mississippi, where she will become a Methodist bishop. I know that it won't be long until my colleagues from Mississippi realize how fortunate they are to have this family as part of their community.