

CSW continues to effect change in all aspects of our society by supporting the work of its non-profit member groups. The sixty-three non-profit member groups currently supported by Community Shares of Wisconsin are groups independently involved in tackling social and environmental issues both locally and nationwide. By working with CSW, each member non-profit group gains access to a larger network of supporters and more abundant resources with which to advance its mission.

For 40 years, CSW has utilized this pooled resource model to devise innovative solutions and ideas that generate lasting changes in social justice across the United States. It is due to the hard work of CSW member organizations like the Fair Housing Center of Greater Madison that more Wisconsinites can live in affordable housing complexes that offer permanent shelter and community safety. Other members of the CSW, like the Wisconsin Women's Network, are committed to the betterment of women's health, safety, and workplace protections. Although these are just a few examples, it is without a doubt that the civil rights and liberties of our family, friends, and neighbors stand better protected today thanks to the dedication and commitment of CSW member groups.

In addition to advancing social justice, the pursuit for environmental preservation is one of CSW's highest priorities. By supporting non-profit groups such as Clean Wisconsin, Friends of Wisconsin State Parks, and the River Alliance of Wisconsin, CSW works to improve the condition of Wisconsin's waters and its air quality. The great State of Wisconsin now thrives as a haven for residents and tourists who take pleasure in the outdoors and depend on the State's natural resources on a daily basis.

Today, CSW continues to bring together thousands of donors to benefit a multiplicity of causes through its non-profit member groups. I extend my sincerest congratulations to Community Shares of Wisconsin on its 40 years of forward thinking and its steadfast pursuit of justice and environmental protection for our community, both here in Wisconsin and across this great Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL J.
CRILLY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise today to pay tribute to Superintendent Michael J. Crilly, who retires this month from the Jefferson Union High School District.

Superintendent Crilly came up through the ranks, spending 39 years in the Jefferson Union High School District as teacher, vice principal, principal, associate superintendent and, for the past 17 years, superintendent. During his tenure at the helm, Mike led the district through two successful bond campaigns, allowing school buildings and fields to be upgraded and modernized to better serve a growing and changing student body. He partnered with the City of Daly City to develop the Challenge Leadership Program, bringing students from various schools together to find

ways to improve their education and learn important leadership skills. Mike also formed a partnership with San Francisco State University, the South San Francisco Unified School District and Serramonte Shopping Center to conduct an annual college fair, providing students access to representatives from nearly 70 colleges and universities.

In 2007, he was named Regional Superintendent of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators, a recognition justly deserved.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Crilly is not an administrator who feels that public service ends at the close of business. He gives tirelessly to his community, having served as President or Chairperson of the San Mateo County Superintendents' Association, Daly City—Colma Chamber of Commerce and Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Committee. Mike has also served on the Association of California School Administrators, Daly City Economic Development Advisory Committee, Daly City—Quezon City Sister City Committee, Pacifica Library Task Force, Skyline College President's Council and the Seton Medical Center Board of Directors.

A native San Franciscan, Mike Crilly was educated in local schools. He received his Bachelor of Arts from St. Patrick's University and his Secondary Teaching Credential and Administrative Services Credential from the University of San Francisco. Mike and his incredible wife, Patricia, raised three inspiring daughters—Jennifer, Megan and Erin—and Mike's retirement will leave even more time to enjoy his family, especially grandchildren Brayden and Ellie.

If I know Mike, retirement will also encourage more home remodeling and gardening projects but I'm sure there'll be plenty of baseball squeezed in as well.

Mr. Speaker, Superintendent Crilly has served his students and his community with the greatest honor and distinction. I am privileged to call him a friend and fellow public servant. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Superintendent Michael J. Crilly for his service to our nation and to the students and taxpayers of the Jefferson Union High School District.

EMPOWERING PARENTS THROUGH
QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOLS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2218) to amend the charter school program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, I voted in favor of House Resolution 2218, the Empowering Parents Through Quality Charter Schools Act. While I support most of the legislation, I have a few concerns which I would like to highlight.

I welcome the additional accountability requirements and the increased access measures incorporated into this legislation, as well as the specific encouragement for public char-

ter schools and traditional public schools to share best practices. However, I am worried about the authority given to the Secretary to dispense charter planning grant money. We have often seen this discretionary authority used to coerce school districts or states into adopting policies that do not fit within the state's education framework.

While I appreciate the bipartisan nature of this legislation, and the important advances it makes for accountability and access issues, I hope that the discretionary authority given to the Secretary is used judiciously.

IN RECOGNITION OF KAREN
PHILIP

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense appreciation and a tinge of regret that I rise today in honor of Karen K. Philip, who retires at the end of this month as Deputy Superintendent of the San Mateo County Office of Education.

There is no doubt that she has earned her retirement, after thirty-eight years educating the children—and impressing the parents—of California's 12th Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I doubt that anyone has ever met Karen Philip where they did not learn something. She is the consummate educator, beginning in 1973 in the South San Francisco Unified School District, where she served for seventeen years as a teacher, speech therapist, special education administrator and principal, Karen has dedicated her life to the children of San Mateo County.

From there, she was recruited by the Millbrae School District to serve as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and, after just two years, was appointed Superintendent of the District, a post she held for fifteen years. During her tenure in Millbrae, the schools in her charge received many prestigious awards, including three California Distinguished School Awards and the National Blue Ribbon, awarded in Washington D.C. to Taylor Middle School.

Throughout her career, Deputy Superintendent Philip has been tapped for numerous leadership positions, including serving as President of the San Mateo County Superintendents Association, the Special Education Local Plan Area Board, and Soroptomist International of Millbrae/San Bruno. She has also been named a "Woman of Distinction" by Soroptomist International, received the California "Schoolmasters Award" in 2011 and was inducted into the San Mateo County "Women's Hall of Fame".

Mr. Speaker, as with all true educators, Karen's greatest achievement is in the many thousands of children—most who are now adults—who have benefitted from her passion and extraordinary talent for teaching. No doubt, our county's loss is Karen's grandchildren's gain. Now they get to spend even more time soaking in all the incredible lessons their brilliant grandmother has to offer.

Karen was born and raised in Michigan and attended Detroit's Wayne State University, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and English and her Master Degree in Communication Disorders and Sciences.