

June 18, 1999

While I recognize the rights of law abiding citizens to purchase guns for hunting and collecting, as a parent I have to ask myself "how many more children have to die because of gun violence before "enough is enough."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 216, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I was granted a leave of absence for today, Friday, June 18, 1999 after 12 noon. At that time, I received word of a family emergency at home in New Jersey and immediately left Washington D.C. Following are the votes I missed and how I would have voted:

Representatives Sessions and Frost amendment (No. 8) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 239, I would have voted "nay".

Representative Goode Amendment (No. 9) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 240, I would have voted "nay".

Representative Hunter Amendment (No. 10) to H.R. 2111, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 241, I would have voted "nay".

Representative Rogan Amendment (No. 11) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 242, I would have voted "yea".

Representatives Conyers and Campbell Amendment (No. 12) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Act: On rollcall No. 243, I would have voted "yea".

On Passage of H.R. 2122: On rollcall vote No. 234, I would have voted "nay".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on Thursday, June 17, 1999, missing rollcall votes 220 through 235. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 220, "no" on rollcall 221, "yes" on rollcall 222, "no" on rollcall 223, "no" on rollcall 224, "yes" on rollcall 225, "yes" on rollcall 226, "no" on rollcall 227, "yes" on rollcall 228, "yes" on rollcall 229, "yes" on rollcall 230, "no" on rollcall 231, "yes" on rollcall 232, "no" on rollcall 233, "no" on rollcall 234, and "yes" on rollcall 235.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO AKA's BETA ALPHA OMEGA CHAPTER

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring your attention to an organization that has made quite an impact on its surrounding community. I speak of the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is the oldest Greek-letter organization for African American women. Founded on the Howard University campus in Washington, DC on January 15, 1908, it has grown from a membership of 9 to over 150,000.

New Jersey's oldest chapter is Beta Alpha Omega. It was chartered on January 30, 1934 in Newark. For the past 65 years this chapter has continuously provided invaluable community services in the City of Newark and surrounding area. As a result of their unwavering dedication to the improvement of their community, the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter will be honored by the Kappa Alpha Sorority on Saturday, June 19, 1999.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we too join in honoring this fine organization; an organization rich in both history and service. Once again, I extend my praises to the Beta Alpha Omega, and wish them another 65 years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 217, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

FIGHTING HUNGER FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTURY: COMMEMORATING BREAD FOR THE WORLD'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute and congratulate Bread for the World on their 25th anniversary, and welcome Bread for the World members from across the country as they convene in Washington, D.C. for their National Gathering, Silver Anniversary Celebration, and Annual Lobby Day.

For 25 years, Bread for the World has worked to end hunger and seek justice for the poor, the hurting, and the oppressed. When people of faith come together around the common conviction that hunger can be defeated, great things happen. And great things have happened over the years, as Bread for the World has won many victories, large and small, on behalf of the hungry and voiceless.

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It has been my privilege to work with Bread for the World on many issues over the years, and I've often drawn inspiration from the energy, dedication, and tenacity of Bread for the World Members and staff. This organization represents our finest traditions of living faith and civic duty, and its efforts have never been more important.

Despite a booming economy, hunger is on the rise, and millions of low-income Americans are having trouble putting food on the table. Rosy economic statistics are masking real hardship and a deepening of poverty for many working people and others. Across the nation, the number of people turning to food banks and soup kitchens for help is up substantially. And here in the richest nation on earth, we still have a disgracefully high child poverty rate, with one in five of our children living in poverty.

And despite tremendous progress in this fight over the past 25 years, hunger still threatens 800 million of the world's people. Large populations in Africa's Great Lakes Region, Angola, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan, the former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq, and North Korea require assistance to survive. World estimates of people requiring emergency food aid to escape hunger now exceed 26 million.

We know that debt relief is hunger relief, and that is why Bread for the World's Debt Relief for Poverty Reduction initiative is so timely. This year, Bread for the World joined together with hundreds of other organizations working internationally to ease crippling debt burdens that keep poor nations from investing in the well-being of their citizens. Payments on past debt are, on average, twice the amount that many poor countries receive in aid. In sub-Saharan Africa, nations are making payments of \$12 billion each year on old debt—six times the amount it would take to school all African children. That is wrong, and I am pleased to join with Bread for the World in seeking to change it.

I give thanks for Bread for the World and its members and staff for their contributions to fighting hunger in the United States and overseas, and wish them continued blessings in the years ahead, as they seek justice and an end to hunger.

TRIBUTE TO DISCOVER CARD SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the recipients of the Discover Card Tribute Award scholarships. The winners were selected from over 10,000 applications nationwide.

The Discover Card Tribute Award program honors outstanding high school juniors across the United States and overseas. The Tribute Award program not only recognizes the students scholastic achievement, but also their community service, leadership skills, unique talents, and goal attainment. The winners may

use their scholarships for any form of post high school education, including trade schools and two year colleges.

The scholarships are awarded in three categories of study: Arts and Humanities, Trade and Technical or Science, Business and Technology. Students can receive a gold (2,500), silver (1,750), bronze (1,250), and merit (1,000) Tribute Award scholarship.

The winners from South Carolina are: Melanie Almonte, Goose Creek—bronze; Shawnta Bolden, North Charleston—bronze; Reis Coggins, Fort Mill—silver; KoJillitta Griffin, Charleston—silver; Kiti Kajana, Columbia—gold; Anisa Kintz, Conway—silver; Courtney Sandifer, Barnwell—gold; Snehal Sarvate, Charleston—bronze; Krista Shirley, Gilbert—gold; and Mellisa Tanner, North Charleston—silver.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the young scholarship winners from the Palmetto State, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these students for their current achievements, and encourage them to continue their contributions as our nation's young leaders.

HILLSBORO HIGH SCHOOL TEAM WINS REGION FOUR (SOUTH-EASTERN STATES) IN WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION PROGRAM

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my alma mater, Hillsboro High School, for their victory in Region Four (South-eastern States) of the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. On May 1–3, 1999, more than 1,200 students from across the United States came to Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals of this program. Through their hard work and diligence, and led by teacher Mary Catherine Bradshaw, State Coordinator Judy Cannizzaro, and District Coordinator Holly West Brewer, these young scholars gained a profound knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles of our constitutional democracy.

The We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about both the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition was modeled after hearings in the U.S. Congress, consisting of oral presentations by the students before a panel of adult judges. The students testified as constitutional experts, and their testimony was followed by a period of questioning during which the judges probed the students for both the depth of their understanding and the ability to apply their knowledge to constitutional dilemmas.

Twenty-seven students from Hillsboro competed in the competition, including Suchie Brattacharyya, Rachel Bloomekatz, Kate Caldwell, Tua Chaudhari, Lauren Collett, Doug Conway, Rion C. Taylor, Cara Doidge,

Sarah Ettinger, Carmen Germino, Lee Griggs, Emma Groce, Kyle Hatridge, Sarah Henn, Rebecca Hunter, Emeily Leiserson, Meredith Lorber, Ana Mallett, Judson Merrell, Carley O'Shea, Rachel Roberts, J.P. Schuffman, Ashley Smiley, Ashley Thompson, Ayne Wallace-Swiggart, and Mary Williams.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People . . . program has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. A 1994 evaluation of the program found it successful in promoting both the toleration of dissenting views and active participation in our political system. I commend the students from Hillsboro High School, as well as their teachers and administrators, for their impressive performance and wish them the best of luck in their efforts to reach the 2000 national finals.

EXPANDED NUTRITION PROGRAM

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in observing the 30th anniversary of the Expanded Nutrition Program. On Monday, I will be with the Expanded Nutrition Program of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi to celebrate this all-important anniversary.

We are all fortunate enough to know how very important, how very fundamental, nutrition is to each of us. Each one of us, for better or worse, is a product of what we began to eat when we were younger. I am so very proud of the work South Texans have done to learn more about nutrition.

I am so grateful for the vision in association with the Expanded Nutrition Program (ENP) in Texas. ENP has been providing nutrition education to poor families and children since 1968, and it is easily one of our most productive programs.

ENP teaches an assortment of things all of us need in order to be productive, healthy citizens: life skills, self-sufficiency, better health and nutrition, careful budgeting, commitment, responsibility and personal success. All in all, ENP leads the way to a healthier way of life. Better still, ENP saves us money; each dollar spent on ENP is \$10 saved on health care costs.

ENP teaches lessons about food and nutrition in a supportive environment. The "Kids in the Kitchen" program provides leadership development for young people who need esteem or leadership skills. Young people who help prepare family meals learn valuable lessons about sharing workload and responsibility.

Through the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texans have learned about basic nutrition, managing a food budget, food safety and food preparation. Women who are returning to work can learn to prepare quick and easy, yet nutritious, meals to ease the family's adjustment to the change. Positive, productive activities may reduce the chance of risky behavior.

I want to ask all my colleagues to join me today in observing the 30th anniversary of the Expanded Nutrition Program.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 218 had I been present, I would have voted "no."

SAN ANTONIO WATER SYSTEM RECYCLING PROJECT

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce legislation to promote water conservation and recycling in San Antonio, Texas. This legislation enjoys the bipartisan support of the other members of the San Antonio congressional delegation who join as original co-sponsors.

Like many places across the Nation, San Antonio and the entire central Texas region faces the challenge of providing adequate supplies of water for human consumption, agriculture, industry, and recreation. Unlike other areas, San Antonio depends on a sole source for its drinking water—the Edwards Aquifer.

This legislation would authorize the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) Water Recycling Project Phase III. SAWS has embarked on an ambitious project to recycle water that can then be used for a host of industrial and non-potable uses. Upon completion of the project, SAWS expects to save 35,000 acre feet of water, roughly equivalent to 31.2 million gallons per day. As a result, more than 11 billion gallons a year of aquifer water will be available for potable use. This saving will free up an amount equal to approximately twenty percent of the City of San Antonio's current withdrawals from the Edwards Aquifer.

The SAWS recycling project meets federal goals for Bureau of Reclamation water projects under Title XVI of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act of 1992, as amended (PL 102–575). Specifically, the San Antonio Recycled Water Project will: reduce demand on and use of the Edwards Aquifer water supply and will help protect federally-protected endangered species dependent on spring flows originating in the Edwards Aquifer; reduce and postpone San Antonio's need to develop new water resources; foster a region-wide perspective in addressing usage issues across the Edwards Aquifer area, as well as the San Antonio and Guadalupe Rivers watersheds; and provide economic benefits to a community with significantly economically disadvantaged sectors. Phase III is expected to cost approximately \$20 million, and the federal share would be \$5 million.

The FY 1998 Energy and Water Appropriation Bill contained a \$200,000 "earmark" for