

Whereas, Congress has legislated the Social Security Administration to reduce benefits to 11,000,000 recipients born between 1917 and 1926, to reduce Social Security benefits in half to recipients who have earned another government pension, and to pay benefits to senior citizens who have not contributed to the system; and

Whereas, When the Baby Boomers begin to reach the age 65 in 2010, the Social Security System will pay only 65-75% of the current benefits, due to the increasing numbers of recipients growing from the present 40,000,000 to an estimated 80,000,000; therefore, be it

Resolved, That The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution favor fulfilling the obligation to those who have paid into the Social Security system and oppose the practice of factoring Social Security funds into the federal budget.

REAFFIRMATIONS

1. Injustice for all—World court—(1998)
Resolved, That the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution oppose any efforts to surrender our nation's sovereignty to the United Nations by establishing the International Criminal Court, a world tribunal that will override the United States Constitution, the American legal system, and our inherent rights.

2. The American Heritage Rivers initiative (AHRI)—(1998)

Resolved, That the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution oppose the American Heritage Rivers Initiative, a maneuver by the Executive Branch to thwart the powers reserved to Congress regarding regulation of navigable waters, to curb jurisdiction of states over land use planning as well as to restrict water rights, local zoning and individual property rights.

3. Census 2000: Support full enumeration versus sampling—(1998)

Resolved, That the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution support the Constitutional requirement of full enumeration of the Census 2000 including all American citizens residing abroad, which will provide important and necessary information to the United States Government and its people.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL NEED FOR RECONCILIATION AND HEALING AND RECOMMENDING A CALL FOR DAYS OF PRAYER

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, last weekend I was going through my father's personal items. He passed away in November. I found this Bible tucked away in a drawer. On the front is inscribed "May this comfort and protect you." Inside it reads, "Commander in Chief, I take pleasure in commending the reading of the Bible to all who served in the Armed Forces of the United States Throughout the centuries men of many faiths and diverse origins have found in the sacred book words of wisdom, counsel, and inspiration. It is the foundation of strength, and now as always an aid in attaining the highest aspirations of the human soul." Franklin Roosevelt.

The next page: "Our prayers are constantly with you, thanking God daily for your joy and faith in him. Heartfelt love, Mother."

We have heard the question today, "what right does the government have imposing its values on us." What right did President Roosevelt have sending my father off to war with this bible more 50 years ago. The president is a leader, Congress is a leader, we need to lead by example by turning to our faith.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VILLAGE OF AKRON

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of the Village of Akron in Erie County, New York.

Since Jonathan Russell first cleared enough forest to build a frame house and general store, the village of Akron has established itself as a proud community to live and work in. Their strong industrial base, solid work ethic, and rich heritage has helped Akron live up to its name, which means "high place."

Besides a tremendous pride in their community, the residents of Akron have shown an equally impressive love of their country—serving when called whenever our freedom or liberty was threatened. Among the sons and daughters of Akron who have proudly served their nation was General Ely S. Parker, who helped write the terms of the surrender at Appomattox during the Civil War.

From an outstanding commitment to education through the Akron Central School, to the growth of such employers as the well-known Perry's Ice Cream Company to a vibrant business district and strong spirit of community, the village of Akron has enjoyed a tremendous 150 years of history.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the birth of our Nation this weekend, on Sunday, July 4, 1999, residents and local officials of Akron will gather in Russell Park in the village to celebrate their sesquicentennial and the rich and proud history of their community. I ask, Mr. Speaker, that this House of Representatives join me in extending to the citizens of Akron, past, present, and future, our sincerest best wishes and heartiest congratulations on their 150th Anniversary.

CAREGIVERS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1999

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with Mr. MARKEY in introducing this important bill. Each day, millions of families struggle as they care for their loved ones who suffer from chronic and debilitating diseases. Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, Down's syndrome, and the ravages of old age make many people dependent on others for their basic care.

Many Americans depend on long-term health care due to a chronic illness or a permanent disability. For example, as many as four million of the nation's elderly currently suffer Alzheimer's disease. Unless someone finds a cure for this condition, the numbers are sure to grow. Within the next 20 to 30 years, there may well be over 14 million persons with this terrible disease that slowly destroys the brain. According to recent surveys, over 50 percent of persons with Alzheimer's disease continue to live with a relative or spouse who sees to their day-to-day care. This personal care may last for many years and represents the equivalent of a full-time job.

We are currently working on a comprehensive bill that will broaden the scope of services families and patients can use to meet their long-term care needs. In the interim we offer this modest first step.

Specifically, this bill provides a \$1,000 tax credit for caregivers similar to the one described by the President in his State of the Union address. Unlike the President's proposal our tax credit is completely refundable and makes no distinction between care for an adult or a child.

If the credit is not refundable, it will be of little or no use to many of the families most in need of caregiver help. The following table illustrates the consequences as simple tax credit that is not refundable. A single individual who makes less than \$7,050 will receive no benefit. That same person would have to make \$13,717 to receive the full \$1,000 of assistance. Similarly, an elderly couple would need a combined annual income of \$21,067 to realize the entire tax credit.

Filing status	Minimum income required to receive portion of tax credit	Income required to receive full tax credit
Single	\$7,050	\$13,717
Head of Household With One dependent ..	11,850	18,571
Married Joint Filers	12,700	19,367
Elderly Single Filer	8,100	14,767
Elderly Married Joint Filers	14,400	21,067

The consequence of a simple tax credit is that those people who most need assistance will be the least likely to obtain the intended support. To be honest, \$1,000 is not that much money for long-term care, but it does provide a family with modest relief that they can use as they see fit. That is why we have structured the bill to ensure that those who most need the support will receive the refund.

Another important distinction between our proposal and the President's is the treatment of children with long-term care needs. The President's proposal would limit the tax credit to \$500 for children with long term care needs. We do not agree with this policy. The long-term care needs of a disabled child are just as expensive and emotionally distressing as they are for an adult.

Our fill also has a broader definition of individuals with long-term care needs. The President's proposal includes individuals who require assistance to perform activities of daily living (bathing, dressing, eating, continence, toileting, and transferring in and out of a bed or chair). This is a good start but may not include people with severe mental health disabilities or developmental disabilities who cannot live independently. Our bill does help the caregivers of these people.