

honored to join in this celebration and encourage all to participate in the Moonfest 1999 activities.

A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL AMERICANS: REVEREND BOOKER T. MCCOLLUM

### HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 15, 1999*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Reverend Booker T. McCollum, an individual who has tirelessly dedicated his life to making society better. This individual has made a lifetime commitment to the church and to the community. His vision, generosity, and devotion have empowered Reverend McCollum to not only spread the word of God but to uplift all those he has encountered. Reverend Booker T. McCollum is a great "Point-of-Light" whose work has not gone unappreciated or unnoticed.

Although his roots are in Mississippi, Reverend McCollum began his ministry in Brooklyn, NY. After relocating to New York, he joined the Friendship Baptist Church in Brooklyn and faithfully served as assistant church clerk, chairman of the trustees and deacon boards, and later as assistant to the pastor. In 1964, Reverend McCollum accepted the call to preach. By 1966, the reverend became an ordained and licensed Baptist minister. He continued to work diligently at the Friendship Baptist Church until he was moved by God to pursue his vision of starting a new church mission.

The vision would materialize as the St. Anthony Baptist Church located at 425 Utica Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. Reverend McCollum adopted the philosophy: "St. Anthony Baptist Church is the church where everybody is somebody and God is over all and where there are no big I's and little U's." This philosophy has helped what was once a gathering of a few faithful members at the home of Mr. & Mrs. James Parker become a pillar in the Brooklyn community.

Reverend McCollum was educated at Cornell Labor College of Law and the Baptist Education Center. His professional career includes employment with The United Furniture Workers Labor Union, Local 140 where he held the position of secretary/treasurer. He served in a religious capacity as president of the Evangelical Minister's Union, and he is the recipient of countless awards and citations. In addition to serving God and his community, Reverend McCollum served his country with distinction in the U.S. Navy.

Reverend Booker T. McCollum married "Grace Barnes" in 1943. There were happily married for more than 50 years and had three children: David, Gloria and Russell. His distinguished life marks one of dedication to community, to God, and to family. Reverend McCollum is a great "Point of Light," not only for people of his New York community, but for all of the people of America.

### EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF HOUSTON ASTROS MANAGER LARRY DIERKER

### HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 15, 1999*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my best wishes to Houston Astros manager Larry Dierker who will return to the dugout tonight, just four weeks after undergoing surgery that removed the cause of a grand mal seizure he suffered on June 13, 1999.

Although he must still take medication for the foreseeable future, Larry's doctors have told him he has little chance of recurrence of the seizure that struck without warning as he sat in the Astros' dugout. Like all Houstonians, I was shocked and alarmed by the severity of the seizure which played out on television and before nearly 30,000 fans at the Astrodome in Houston. In the moments following his seizure, I was struck by the presence and courage of the Astros players, personnel and paramedics who rushed to Larry's aid. In particular, I was impressed by the response of outfielder Derek Bell, who took direct, physical action to keep Larry from further injury.

As every Astros fan knows, Larry Dierker is in his third season as manager of the Astros. In 1998, he was named the National League Manager of the Year after leading the Astros to a record 102 wins. Before taking over as manager in October 1996, Dierker spent 17 seasons as an Astros radio and television broadcaster. He led the Astros to the National League Central title in his first season, then to their second straight division crown in 1998. For those of us that remember the early days of the Astros, we also know Larry for his 14 remarkable seasons as a top-notch pitcher in the National League who was the Astros' first 20-game winner in 1969. He was named to two All-Star games and pitched a no-hitter in 1976.

Mr. Chairman, many sports fans, including myself, can easily become caught-up in the importance of winning games, division titles and championships. We rejoice at the success of the great athletes, whose guile and ability seem to defy our human limitations. While winning is important, injuries and losses teach both athletes and fans alike to keep humility in check, for we are all mortal, and every moment of triumph and success can be quickly supplanted with bad fortune and loss. In many ways, the battles of winning and losing, through good times and bad, mirror the unpredictable course of our own lives.

On June 13, 1999, Larry Dierker, a quiet, humble man who has accomplished many great things in the arena of baseball, brought this lesson home to the sports fans of Houston. Now that he has rejoined the Astros, I join with Larry Dierker's family and many friends in the major leagues in celebrating his quick recovery and offering my best wishes in his able return to the Astros dugout.

*July 15, 1999*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 14, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2466) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, today I rise to support Representative SLAUGHTER's amendment which will add money to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

Ms. SLAUGHTER's amendment raises the appropriation level for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) by \$10 million each.

The NEH is vital to our educational systems and provides numerous services in the area of the humanities. The NEH provides grants to individuals and institutions. These grants support valuable aspects of the humanities such as research in the humanities; educational opportunities for teachers; the preservation of texts and materials; translations of important works; museum exhibitions, television and radio programs; and public discussion and study.

The humanities encompass a wide variety of subject matter. They are all around us and evident in our daily lives. When you visit an exhibition on "The Many Realms of King Arthur" at your local library, that is the humanities. When you read the diary of a 17th-century New England midwife, that is the humanities. When you watch an episode of "The Civil War," that is the humanities, too. The humanities include the study of literature, history, philosophy, religion, art, history, and archaeology.

NEH also provides many educational tools for children. Most recently, the NEH has provided students with the educational foundations necessary for the use of the internet. NEH maintains EDSITEMent, a gateway Web site that provides links to 49 sites carefully selected for their quality of educational content and design. Instead of having to sift through more than 65,000 humanities-related sites on the Web, anyone seeking the best humanities education materials on the Internet can easily find and access them through EDSITEMent. Each site comes with lesson plans offering suggestions on how to use the materials effectively in the classroom.

NEH works closely with schools and is currently awarding grants to schools around the nation through an initiative called "Schools for a New Millennium," which will enable those schools to become models of how teachers, principals, librarians, and the community can fully incorporate CD-ROM's and the Internet into their everyday teaching.

To increase its efficiency, the NEH is organized into three divisions—Education and Research, Preservation and Access, and Public

Program—and three offices—Challenge Grants, Federal/State Partnership, and Enterprise.

The Hogg Middle School in my district received a grant from the NEH to do a historical study of the Heights, an area in my district, which will be published on the world-wide-web along the side and connected to the official online guide to Texas history. This is a tremendous achievement that could only be done with the help of the NEH.

The NEA is an independent agency of the Federal government charged with supporting the arts in America for All Americans. The NEA carries out their mission through grants, leadership initiatives, partnership agreements with state and regional organizations, partnerships with other Federal agencies and the private sector, research, arts education, access programs, and advocacy.

Since 1965, the example at the Federal level has led to the establishment of public arts agencies in every state and the creation of seven regional arts agencies. Public arts agencies in small towns and cities have grown to over 3,800. Through the NEA partnerships, they have helped to increase the amount of private donations to the arts. For every dollar the endowment awards, other sources contribute \$12 to make art happen in thousands of communities.

The NEA in Texas has provided money for such programs to the Houston Symphony Society, the Houston International Jazz Festival, the Alley Theater and the Texas Institute for Arts in Education. These programs ensure that Houston, TX, will remain a hub of arts and culture for years to come, and I look forward to their continuing important work.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support funding for both the NEA and the NEH.

IN HONOR OF COLOMBIA AND THE  
COLOMBIAN PEOPLE ON THE  
189TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR  
INDEPENDENCE FROM SPAIN  
AND OF THE COLOMBIAN COM-  
MUNITY IN ELIZABETH, NJ

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 189th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of Colombia from Spain and to proclaim July 19–23, 1999, as “Colombian Week” in the City of Elizabeth, NJ.

The Colombian Community in the City of Elizabeth has made great contributions to my district, as well as to the State of New Jersey. They have provided many invaluable services, and their culture and heritage continues to enrich the entire 13th District. Repeatedly, they have worked diligently to realize every opportunity that American democracy provides.

Because of their spiritual and cultural values, the Colombian community of Elizabeth has exemplified civil responsibility. They have

**EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS**

emerged as true role models for all Americans by working not only for the welfare of the Colombian community, but for the health, wealth, and welfare of the city at large.

The initiation of “Colombian Week” offers a time for the Colombian community to celebrate Colombia’s growth as a nation and to share that feeling with the entire community of Elizabeth. Through teaching and learning from each other’s experiences, we are able to build a strong and united community. I invite all the people of Elizabeth to unite and help to commemorate this great Colombian anniversary.

I am happy to honor the Colombian community for their many achievements and contributions to the City of Elizabeth. As the city unites to commemorate the 189th anniversary of Colombia, may we all take a moment to recognize their great efforts and accomplishments.

**WHY I'M OPPOSED TO A PAY HIKE**

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, very soon the House will decide on the matter of Congressional pay raises. This topic has also been considered by the State of Colorado. The Colorado General Assembly recently adopted Senate Joint Memorial 99–005—sponsored by Senate President Ray Powers of Colorado Springs, and State Representative Doug Dean of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, the Constitution of the United States also speaks to the topic of legislative pay raises. It forbids Members of Congress from voting themselves pay raises. Amendment XXVII—“the Madison Amendment”—says, “No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.”

As one who has served in the Colorado State Senate, I am persuaded Colorado’s official position on the matter of pay raises is thoughtful and representative of Coloradans generally. Therefore Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to consider my state’s perspective, as enumerated in SJM 99–005, which I hereby submit for the RECORD.

Furthermore, I offer this Memorial as the basis for my vote against the pay raise in question.

COLORADO STATE SENATE,  
Denver, CO, May 21, 1999.

Hon. BOB SCHAFFER,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN SCHAFFER: The Senate and the House of Representatives of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado have adopted the enclosed Senate Joint Memorial No. 99–5 and directed that a copy be forwarded to you for your information.

Sincerely,

PATRICIA K. DICKS,  
Secretary of the Senate.

Enclosure.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 99–005

Whereas, The twenty-seventh amendment to the constitution of the United States, also known as “The Madison Amendment”, provides that “No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.”; and

Whereas, The twenty-seventh amendment requires that an intervening election be held between the enactment of any congressional pay increase and its subsequent application to any member of Congress; and

Whereas, The twenty-seventh amendment requirement’s requirement for an intervening election is intended to allow voters in each state and congressional district to obtain direct information regarding salary increases prior to the reelection of incumbents or the election of others in their stead; and

Whereas, Salary increases for members of Congress currently are regulated by “The Government Ethics Reform Act of 1989,” (“The Act”) pursuant to 2 U.S.C. sec. 31; and

Whereas, The Act gives members of Congress an immediate one-time salary increase and, in subsequent years, an annual cost of living adjustment increase to salaries or pensions; and

Whereas, Such annual cost of living adjustment is established in accordance with federal law and incorporated in an executive order of the President in December of each year to establish salary increases that are put into effect on January 1 of the next year; and

Whereas, Through the automatic operation of the cost of living adjustment provisions, congressional salaries have been increased on the first day of January for several years; and

Whereas, Without the action of legislation, each Congress effectively and automatically enacts for itself a cost of living adjustment salary increase in violation of the twenty-seventh amendment; and

Whereas, When each year’s cost of living adjustment increase is paid on the following January 1 to members of Congress, former members, or spouses of deceased members without the process of an intervening election, the twenty-seventh amendment is violated; now therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado, with the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

That the General Assembly hereby expresses its opposition to automatic annual cost of living adjustment salary increases for members of Congress of the United States as violative of the twenty-seventh amendment to the United States Constitution and hereby memorializes the Congress to refrain from enacting any pay increase for members of Congress without an affirmative vote or that takes effect before the following Congress has been elected and fully sworn into office. Be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this Memorial be sent to the President of the United States, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, and to each member of the Congressional delegation representing the state of Colorado.