

Board and a City of Santa Barbara Planning Commissioner.

Mr. Speaker, I was honored to join the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County this past weekend to pay tribute to David Anderson. He is a man who has dedicated himself to creating and preserving our most precious resources—our land and our environment. I commend him for years of service to the County of Santa Barbara and to our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 1999

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on rollcall numbers 308 for the Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act; 309 for the Sense of Congress Regarding the U.S. in the Cold war and the Fall of the Berlin Wall; and 310 for the Iran Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act. I was unavoidably detained and therefore, could not vote for this legislation. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" for all of the above resolutions.

HONORING FIRST AMERICAN
TITLE COMPANY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize First American Title Company for devoting themselves to the improvement and development of the City of Clovis, California. Through many activities and events, First American Title Company has devoted countless hours to the development and enhancement of the County of Fresno, specifically the City of Clovis.

One of America's oldest and largest real estate related financial services companies celebrated its centennial in 1989. The First American Financial Corporation traces its roots back to 1889 when what was then rural Orange County, California, split off from the County of Los Angeles. At that time, title matters in the brand-new county were handled by two firms—the Orange County Abstract Company and the Santa Ana Abstract Company. In 1894, C.E. Parker, a local businessman, succeeded in merging the two competitors into a single entity, the Orange County Title Company, the immediate predecessor of today's First American Title Insurance Company.

Later, the company took a new name, First American, and expanded the geographic scope of its operations. In 1968, the firm was restructured into a general holding company, The First American Financial Corporation, conducting its title operations through First American Title Insurance Company and its subsidiaries. Existing title and abstract companies were purchased, new offices were established, and agency contacts were negotiated. Through a well-planned and managed expansion

program, First American built an organization that serves every region of the country.

The Company operates through a network of more than 300 offices and 4,000 agents in each of the 50 states. It provides title services abroad in Australia, the Bahamas, Canada, Guam, Mexico, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the United Kingdom.

First American's business practices are a blend of the newest techniques and technologies with the old, tried and true ways of providing personal service. The critical ingredient in the company's formula for success is people.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize First American Title Company as a leader in the community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing them many more years of continued success.

A GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 1999

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, today is the 30th anniversary of man's first steps on the moon. Everyone recognizes the historical importance of the Apollo 11 mission. But we must keep July 20, 1969, from fading from our thoughts as just another date in the history books. The 30th anniversary of the moon landing gives us an opportunity to revisit the drama and sense of wonder that accompanied that momentous occasion.

Although the Soviet Union was first to put a man into space, President Kennedy upped the ante dramatically when he challenged our nation in 1961 to land a human being on the moon before the end of that decade. When our nation fulfilled that goal, it not only demonstrated our technological superiority, but also the patriotism and dedication of the American people.

The success of the Apollo program was a testament to the hard work of many Southern California aerospace workers. Rockwell's production facility in Downey—now owned by Boeing—produced Apollo 11's Command and Service Modules. The energy, enthusiasm, and bold innovation of the aerospace workers in our area was a key component of our nation's fulfillment of President Kennedy's challenge. They brought worldwide recognition to Southern California as a leader in aerospace technology, a reputation that deservedly continues to grow today.

Since aerospace technology has progressed so much in the past three decades, it is easy to forget how incredible a feat the moon landing was in 1969. It is still remarkable. The Saturn V launch vehicle for the Apollo 11 mission contained 960,000 gallons of propellant—enough fuel for a car to drive around the world more than 400 times. The engines of the Saturn V launch vehicle had combined horsepower equivalent to 543 jet fighters.

Recent reports of an alternate speech that President Nixon was prepared to deliver in case of a disaster in the moon mission remind us how potentially dangerous the mission was. The possibility was very real that something

could go terribly wrong with the mission, stranding Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin on the moon. For their courageous willingness to sacrifice, they deserve our continuing gratitude and admiration, as do all of our men and women who have traveled into space.

Our mission of space exploration continues today. The research conducted during space shuttle flights and on the International Space Station brings a wide range of benefits to our lives on Earth, from health care improvements to innovations in industrial processes. And unmanned exploration modules, such as the Pathfinder which went to Mars, expand our knowledge of our universe to a previously unimagined degree. Our space program has achieved things that generations of people never contemplated. If we keep a strong commitment to space exploration now, future generations can turn the science fiction of today into the reality of tomorrow.

COLORADO SENATE JOINT
MEMORIAL 99-003

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, federal highway demonstration projects should be eliminated. That is the official position of the State of Colorado as established by Colorado Senate Joint Memorial 99-003 which was recently adopted by the Colorado General Assembly.

The Memorial directs the federal government to replace specific demonstration projects with a state block grant program for distribution of funds remaining after formula distribution. Mr. Speaker, Congress should keep in mind, federal fuel tax funds belong to the people of America residing in the several states. State governments, being closer to the people are clearly better able to distribute and spend these revenues on highway projects more consistent with local priority.

Colorado's position on this matter is one shared by many states and by many Members of Congress including me. On the basis of Colorado's SJM 99-003, I urge my colleagues to consider a more state-centered approach to highway fund redistribution. I am sufficiently persuaded, Mr. Speaker, Colorado can do a much better job and more efficient job of prioritizing federal highway funds than can the politicized methods of Washington, D.C. I ask our colleagues, Mr. Speaker to fully consider the directives issued by the Colorado General Assembly through SJM 99-003. Furthermore the wisdom of our state legislators should figure prominently in the national policy we construct here on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD a copy of SJM 99-003 and commend State Senator Marilyn Musgrave and State Representative Ron May for their sponsorship of this important Resolution. Their leadership in the area of transportation has proven valuable in furthering the economic stability of our Great State. Moreover, the entire General Assembly of Colorado has once again established itself as a forceful leader in effecting national policy.