

by the United States and our allies. I have little faith that a nation which thinks nothing of murdering innocent civilians and of rounding up innocent Jews and throwing them into jail on trumped-up charges possesses the commitment to safety that would prevent such a reactor from being a threat to the entire Gulf region, if not the world.

The November 1998 pact between Iran and Russia to expedite the construction at Bushehr is illustrative of the urgency of this threat. As a nation, we need to pay close attention to the progression of this project, and we should ensure that we do not contribute to Iran's acquisition of technology or expertise during the course of this project which could contribute to its procurement of nuclear weapons know-how.

As Iran continues to build its military arsenal—testing engines for ballistic missiles capable of carrying warheads to Israel and other nations in the region, we should make sure that our money—both directly and indirectly—does not help Iran's conquest of nuclear technology. This measure, which would withhold assistance to the IAEA pending certain State Department certifications, is a necessary step toward that goal. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

BRENT BAUKNECHT ACHIEVES
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brent Bauknecht for his attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout.

Eagle Scout is the highest honor that a Boy Scout can earn. This high honor requires years of dedication and hard work both to himself and most importantly, the community.

Each Eagle Scout must earn 21 merit badges including First Aid; Camping; Citizenship of the Community; Citizenship of the Nation; Citizenship of the World; Family Life; and Personal Management. In addition, each Eagle Scout must plan, finance, and execute a service project that benefits the community. Furthermore, each Eagle Scout must hold a variety of leadership positions in which he gains important life skills that will always remain with him.

Brent has accomplished this and more. He has proven himself to be an exceptional young man by living by the Scout Law; Scout Oath; Scout Motto; and Scout Promise. Only two percent of all boys entering scouting achieve the Eagle Badge, and this accomplishment is a true testament to Brent's abilities, dedication, and commitment.

I ask you to please join me in congratulating Brent for his achievement and outstanding work.

TRIBUTE TO DEAN AND SHARON
TRAVIS

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 1999

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dean and Sharon Travis of Gratiot County, Michigan, who will be honored at a special ceremony in Midland on July 24 when they will be presented with a Centennial Farm marker by Consumers Energy.

At this celebration, the Travis family and other farm families will have the opportunity to share their stories. The Travis family will relay with appropriate pride how their farm, located in Pine River Township, was purchased by their great-great-grandfather in 1857 and has remained in their family ever since.

The festivities are being held in conjunction with a special Smithsonian Institution exhibit, "Barn Again: Celebrating an American Icon." This exhibit celebrates America's rich agricultural heritage, telling the story of farmers and their varying needs throughout our history.

The barn represents growth and prosperity of Americans, and it is important to recognize the agricultural community's contribution to our nation. This year the exhibit tours Michigan for the first time; residents of Alabama, Illinois, Oregon, Utah, Ohio, Missouri, West Virginia and Georgia have already been privileged to see it.

It is with great pleasure that I recognize the Travis family today. Their success has been a source of pride to Gratiot County, and their barn and Centennial Farm designation symbolize the hard work and determination that is characteristic of mid-Michigan's farm families.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to honor them today in the U.S. House of Representatives and I wish them many more generations of bounty.

ELECTRIC BICYCLE LEGISLATION

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 1999

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce a bipartisan, non-controversial, and much-needed piece of legislation. This bill will clarify for purposes of Federal law and regulations that electric bicycles are consumer products and not motor vehicles. This clarification is necessary, as the interpretation of existing law is that electric bicycles are motor vehicles and must conform to all motor vehicle safety standards.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to clarify what an electric bicycle is. An electric bicycle is defined as a bike with all the same features of a conventional bike save one. It carries a small electric motor system that, when engaged by the flip of a switch, augments the power of the rider. This motor empowers the rider to easily pedal speeds up to, but not over, 20 mph.

Because of this feature, electric bicycles are very popular with recreational riders, seniors,

commuters, fitness riders, and police and other law enforcement agencies, just to name a few. These bicycles have the potential to mitigate traffic congestion and parking problems, enhance law enforcement agencies' ability to perform certain designated duties; reduce air and noise pollution; promote cost-effective alternative-fuel vehicles; and enhance mobility for those who are physically unable either to drive or access essential services on pedal-only bicycles. In fact, in Southern California, electric bicycles have already begun to demonstrate their significant contribution to improving the quality of life for all.

It is clear that, as defined under my legislation, an electric bicycle is not a moped or a motorcycle, and it is certainly not a motor vehicle. To require it, therefore, to meet all the federal standards of a motor vehicle, which require the implementation of brake lights, turn signals, a speedometer, an odometer, wide tires, and other mandates, is contrary to the notion of what you and I hold as a bike.

The bill I'm introducing today would clarify this situation once and for all. It simply provides that electric bicycles are consumer products and are subject to consumer product rules and regulations. This will not eliminate all safety standards for electric bicycles. My legislation will still provide for these products to be subject to strict safety standards.

As I stated, this is a common sense, non-controversial bill. Electric bicycles should be held to the same federal safety standards as bicycles, not motor vehicles. I encourage you to join in co-sponsoring this bill and in supporting passage.

HOLDING MANAGED CARE
ACCOUNTABLE

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 1999

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring an editorial from today's Chicago Tribune to the attention of my colleagues. The editorial is titled "Holding Managed Care Accountable." I hope that my colleagues take the time to read this informative and interesting commentary.

[From the Chicago Tribune, July 22, 1999]

HOLDING MANAGED CARE ACCOUNTABLE

(By Philip H. Corboy)

CHICAGO—John McCarron suggests that the best Congress can do for America's health-care system is to do nothing ("Medical malpractice? When Congress plays doctor, pray for gridlock," Commentary, July 12). Perhaps some agree with him that "there's not much wrong with managed care." They may not have experienced a major medical crisis and the chance to see their HMO in action.

Supporters of the Patients' Bill of Rights point to scores of incidents around the country. Workers pay for medical coverage for themselves and their families, then find that needed care is delayed or denied—even over the objections of their own doctors. Often the result is that the patient suffers more serious harm, or even death.

Mr. McCarron's argument that this is the employer's fault for choosing the HMO is