Seriously interested in resolving the problem. And just last month, as I mentioned earlier, the Turkish side discarded the U.N. invitation to start the new round of comprehensive talks last year as nonsense.

For 25 years now, the Cypriot people have had to endure this unconscionable behavior from the Turkish side. It is long, long past time to bring this nightmare to an end. In my view, the United States needs to step looking the other way and do more to bring the Turkish side to the negotiating table. Twenty-five years of Turkish intransigence is more than enough evidence to prove that the strategies we have employed to bring Turkey to the table have been, and still are, totally ineffective.

The United States is the most powerful nation in the world. The full weight of that power should be employed to move the peace process forward. I have said many times before on this floor that we can achieve that goal by focusing American efforts to move the peace process forward on the Turkish military, which has real and substantial influence on decision-making in the Turkish government. The United States government must convey to Ankara in forceful and unequivocal terms that there will be direct consequences in United States-Turkish relations if Ankara does not prevail upon the Turks to come to the negotiating table in good faith.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in communicating this message to the Turks, and to the key decision-makers in the United States Government, on this historic day. On the Black Anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, the Cypriot people deserve to know that the United States has the utmost respect for their suffering and struggle, and will do whatever it takes to help them secure their freedom and independence.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN BRYAN L. ROLLINS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the exceptional services which Captain Bryan L. Rollins, U.S. Navy, has performed for the United States and for the County of San Diego. Captain Rollins' selfless devotion and patriotic performance make him a truly admirable and one deserving of recognition by this body. It is for his outstanding service to our Nation and its citizens that I wish to congratulate and thank Captain Rollins.

Captain Rollins has had an impressive Naval career with each assignment more demanding and more impressive than the last. He served aboard the U.S.S. Constellation as Chief Staff Officer in the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean through 1987. In November of 1990 Captain Rollins assumed duties as Commanding Officer of the Sun Downers. He amassed over 3000 hours and more than 800 carrier landings aboard the U.S.S. Carl Vinson and the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk. While serving as Navigator aboard the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk, Captain Rollins performed honorably and exceptionally in Somalia, the Persian Gulf and Korea. Then Navy recognized his outstanding performance by awarding him four Meritorious Service Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal.

In April of 1996, he was selected as Deputy Chief of Staff for Commander, Navy Region Southwest. It was there that he was instrumental in the formulation and implementation of a regionalization plan which involved over 65,000 personnel and four full-scale Naval bases. In addition to consolidating and incorporating commands throughout San Diego, he established the Navy's first regional business office and developed business strategies which have become standard throughout the Navy-wide regionalization plan. His effective and efficient tactics have saved the Navy countless millions of dollars as it undergoes massive changes in the face of the management skills, foresight, and exceptional communication skills allowed him to gain widespread support for Navy operations throughout the community.

Captain Rollins' remarkable contributions to San Diego County, the United States Navy, and our Country speak to his intellect, his professional drive, and his relentless pursuit of excellence. I wish him the very best success as he starts a new chapter in his life. Congratulations and, as always, "fair winds and following seas."

AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HON. DALE E. KILDEE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, as Co-Chairman of the House Conservative American Caucus, it is a honor for me to introduce a bill creating an American Indian Education Foundation. I especially want to thank the original cosponsors of this bill, they include: Representatives Patrick Kennedy, George Miller, Tom Udall, J.D. Hayworth, Earl Pomeroy and Jim Kolbe.

As a senior member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, I have enjoyed the opportunity of developing proposals designed to support Indian education. Up for reauthorization this Congress is the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 that includes a section devoted to Indian education. This Act supports the educational, cultural and academic needs of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian children.

It is estimated that the BIA educates approximately 12 percent of the Native American K–12 population. This means that 88 percent of our American Indian and Alaska Native youth rely on supplemental educational programs like Johnson O'Malley. This program provides services to more than 200,000 Indian students. However, these programs are drastically underfunded.

A critical need for an increase in funding for school construction exists in Indian country. When I came to Congress 23 years ago, I was appointed Chairman of the Indian Education Task Force. I will never forget visiting schools that were in such poor condition that the children of these schools could barely keep warm let alone have a chance at getting a decent education. I know that the judges in my hometown in Michigan shutdown prisons that were in better condition than many schools I visited.

Our Native American students deserve a decent education. It is our responsibility to ensure that our children are studying in environments conducive to learning. I support the creation of an American Indian Education Foundation because I believe Congress must find a new way to supplement current funding for BIA Indian education programs. The Foundation would encourage gifts of real and personal property and income for support of the education goals of the BIA's Office of Indian Education Programs and to further the educational opportunities of American Indian and Alaska Native students.

The governing body of the Foundation would consist of 9 board of directors who are appointed by the Secretary of Interior for an initial period. The Secretary of Interior and the Assistant Secretary of Interior for Indian Affairs would serve as ex officio nonvoting members. Members of the board would have to be "knowledgeable or experienced in American Indian education and ... represent diverse points of view relating to the education of American Indians."

This bill would allow the Secretary of Interior to transfer certain funds to the Foundation. It is my understanding that the initial funding for the Foundation would come from existing donations or bequests made to the BIA. Funds prohibited by the terms of the donations would not be used for the Foundation.

The Foundation is not a new idea to Congress. Congress has, from time to time, created federally chartered corporations. In 1967, Congress established the National Park Foundation. The purpose of the Foundation is to raise funds for the benefit of the National Park Service. Funds received from individuals, corporations, and foundations are distributed to individual parks through competitive grants. My bill is modeled after the 1967 Act.

I believe that an American Indian Education Foundation could be just as successful as the National Park Foundation. I want to emphasize that I believe that Congress has a federal trust responsibility to ensure that every Native American receives a decent education. This Foundation would not replace that responsibility, but would supplement it through grants designed to support educational, cultural and academic programs.

Mr. Speaker, this concludes my remarks on creating an American Indian Education Foundation.