

October 21, 1999

Currently, Dr. Gonzalez is committed to theological education in a variety of ways, including serving as editor of "Apuntes", a journal of Hispanic theology published in the United States.

For his remarkable commitment to theological education, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Justo and the Hispanic Summer Program on its 10th Anniversary.

---

CONGRATULATING SOUTHAMPTON  
ELKS ON THEIR 70TH ANNIVERSARY

---

**HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 21, 1999

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of Southampton Elks Lodge 1574. Its long and rich history dates back to December 7, 1929, when 90 candidates were initiated by the Officers of Patchogue Lodge 1323. The fraternal organization was founded on the principles of improving the quality of life on Eastern Long Island and strengthening ties within the community. They have been fulfilling that pledge ever since. On July 10, 1930, the Southampton Lodge was awarded their Grand Lodge Charter.

Elks in Suffolk County have long been known for their dedication in assisting and comforting the veterans of our wars, especially those who are disabled or in distress. The Southampton Elks are very proud of the symbol for which they fought—our national flag. They not only promote and defend the flag but also see it as a symbol of charity. Furthermore, the efforts of the Elks to involve youth in the lives of our veterans should serve as a model for community building in this country.

We cannot overlook the close attention they pay to the individual members of society who are in dire need of assistance. In the past, they have donated such items as specially-designed bicycles, wheelchairs and other items needed by the physically-challenged, helped local families pay for medical treatments, and assisted those whose homes have been lost to fire.

I am especially proud of their local assistance when disaster strikes. During emergency situations, Southampton Elks have always been, and I'm sure always will be, prepared to assist by donating funds, volunteering their time, or doing whatever else is needed during times of difficulty.

Once again, I commend Southampton Elks Lodge 1574. Their unselfish, voluntary efforts and generosity are a credit to the communities they serve. They are an asset to Long Island, and I have no doubt that they will continue their good works and service strongly into the new millennium.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

UNITED STATES JAYCEES RESOLVE SOCIAL SECURITY NEEDS REFORM

---

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 21, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, the United States Jaycees, numbering 115,000 individual members, recently adopted a resolution entitled, "Legislation to Ensure the Future Economic Solvency of the Social Security System."

The Jaycees, whose vision is to "become the organization of choice for young people, providing direction and leadership to our communities and nation," conducted more than 75 Social Security town hall meetings across America, reporting that 79% of the surveyed participants think it needs radical or major reform. When asked if there should be implementation of a program that allows individuals to place their Social Security contributions from their current wages in their own personal retirement account and require(s) them to maintain that account for retirement only, 77% either strongly favored or favored that idea.

This resolution's recommendations include reforming Social Security, the need for personal retirement accounts and for directing part of the budget surplus to the solvency of Social Security. It was delivered to me by Penni Zelinoff, president of the Colorado Jaycees and incoming vice president of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce; and Tana Bewly, incoming president of the Colorado Jaycees. I believe the resolution is of vital interest to my constituents and the United States Congress. Therefore, I hereby submit for the RECORD, the full text of the United States Jaycees' recommendations for Social Security's continued solvency.

RESOLUTION—CALL FOR LEGISLATION TO ENSURE THE FUTURE ECONOMIC SOLVENCY OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

Whereas, the membership of The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, as well as most America is concerned about the economic future of Social Security System; and

Whereas, payroll deductions will have to be dramatically increased or benefits significantly decreased unless Social Security is reformed; and

Whereas, we need to meet our Social Security promises to existing and future retirees; and

Whereas, the number of retirees will almost double by the year 2030; and

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce has conducted surveys at seventy-five Social Security Town Hall Meetings in forty different states; and

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce has testified before Congress to address these concerns; and

Whereas, as a result of The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce's Social Security Town Hall Report, an overwhelming majority approved the establishment of individual retirement accounts; and

Whereas, The U.S. Congress has introduced legislation for the establishment and maintenance of individual retirement accounts; and

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce has invested considerable

26581

time and resources in the solvency of the Social Security system; and

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce sees the need to get the average young American involved in the interest of their government; and

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce should actively promote getting out the vote to secure these aims.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, That the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors:

Recognizes that Social Security is in need of immediate revisions;

Recognizes that the future of Social Security is a vital concern for young people and future generations in the United States;

Recognizes the need for capitalization of the Social Security system;

Recognizes the need for personal retirement accounts;

Recognizes that a percentage of budget surpluses should go towards the solvency of Social Security;

Recognizes a need for a national "Get Out the Vote" campaign;

Gives authority to the USJCC staff to pursue a course to reform Social Security in local Junior Chamber communities and at the national level and organize a "Get Out the Vote" campaign.

Mr. Speaker, as a proud former Jaycee, I thank the organization for its most thorough examination of the Social Security System and recommendations for its reform.

---

WHEN WILL CROATIA BECOME A  
DEMOCRACY?

---

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 21, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in the decade since multi-party elections first began to be held in what were the one-party states of East-Central Europe, the political leaders and societies of many of these states have committed themselves to building democratic institutions, respecting the rule of law and tolerating social diversity. Some have done well; others have not. One country which should have done well, but so far has not, is Croatia. I ask, "Why?"

Many will assert, with considerable credibility, that Croatia faced until 1995 the added burdens of Yugoslavia's violent demise, bringing months of conflict in 1991, and the occupation of considerable territory by Serb militants. We should not minimize the sense of victimization felt by the people of Croatia at that time. Indeed, I was in Vukovar in 1991, when it was still under siege, and personally saw the awful things that were happening to the people there. Similarly, we cannot ignore the effect in Croatia of the continued presence of Croats from Bosnia-Herzegovina who still cannot safely return to their homes in what is now the entity of Republika Srpska.

However much one may want to give Croatia the benefit of the doubt, in the eight years since the tragic events following the assertion of statehood, and four years since the occupied territories were either retaken or set for subsequent reintegration, Croatia has become accustomed to its newfound independence. Its