

IN HONOR OF MR. RAMON DE LA CRUZ, PRESIDENT OF THE HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, FOR HIS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 4, 1999*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ramon de la Cruz, President of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, for his outstanding work on behalf of the Hispanic Community.

An active member of the Hispanic Bar Association for more than ten years, Mr. de la Cruz was recently appointed as the New Jersey Regional President of the organization. And he has shown continued commitment to its growth and success.

From fighting racial profiling and domestic violence, to battling against anti-diversity efforts across the country, the Hispanic Bar Association has been a motivating and unifying force for the Hispanic community in New Jersey under Mr. de la Cruz's leadership.

In addition, Mr. de la Cruz and the H.B.A. of New Jersey have worked extensively with several associations to bring attention to the lack of Hispanic representation on the New Jersey federal judiciary. Because of his efforts and vision, Mr. de la Cruz was instrumental in the recent recommendation of New Jersey's first ever Hispanic to be nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Third District in the State.

Knowing the importance of a clear and unified message from the H.B.A., Mr. de la Cruz served as editor of ABOGADO, the official newsletter of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, Inc., for four years. Highlighting the accomplishments of fellow Hispanic abogados y abogadas, as well as confronting the tough issues that the Hispanic community faces, Mr. de la Cruz's work has made the newsletter an informative report to the community.

For all of these achievements and for his remarkable leadership, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. de la Cruz and the H.B.A. on another year of hard work and dedication to both the Hispanic community and the State of New Jersey.

**INTRODUCING THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER CONFIDENTIALITY ACT OF 1999**

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 4, 1999*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Social Security Number Confidentiality Act of 1999. In a time of increasingly easier access to personal information by people other than the owner of that information, "Identity Theft" is becoming more and more of a problem.

Given this significant problem, I found it alarming to learn from senior citizens in my

district that the Social Security Administration openly displays a recipient's Social Security number, name and address in the window of the envelope. This same envelope makes its way through the United States Postal system.

By simply taking a quick peek in a mailbox, or in a pile of mail left in a person's car, anyone could obtain the information needed to steal someone's identity. The open display of such private and confidential information is an invitation for scam artists to rip off our senior citizens.

As I investigated this situation, I found that the Social Security Administration knowingly continues this practice. At the same time they advocate the need to keep Social Security numbers confidential.

Ironically, in the July/August issue of Social Security Today, the agency advises us that, "All the information Social Security collects about you is kept confidential: it's protected by law," and reminds us to "protect your Social Security number. Be careful how you use it and keep it confidential whenever possible."

Mr. Speaker, this is a glaring inconsistency that requires immediate attention. My legislation will prohibit the appearance of Social Security numbers on or through the window of unopened Social Security checks. It will allow the Social Security Administration to practice what they preach—that we all need to be careful and keep our Social Security numbers private and confidential. In all fairness, the checks are printed by the Department of Treasury, and my legislation will direct them to change their procedures.

In closing, I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting the Social Security Number Confidentiality Act of 1999. This important legislation protects our senior citizens from scam artists and maintains the privacy and confidentiality of our Social Security numbers.

**TRIBUTE TO TODD STORZ**

**HON. LEE TERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 4, 1999*

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Todd Storz by marking the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Mid-Continent Broadcasting Company, later known as the Storz Broadcasting Company.

Todd Storz developed the radio rotation format known as "Top 40." This innovation made rock and roll a part of American history and changed the sound of radio forever. Through his Mid-Continent Broadcasting Company, Todd Storz initially influenced radio in Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, and New Orleans. Soon, other radio stations adapted their formats to the "Top 40" rotation style. His pioneering work in radio made popular music a component of American culture.

Todd Storz's idea for "Top 40" radio came about through competition with a rival station that featured a one hour "Top 20" radio show. The two hour "Top 40" format won over listeners as well as other radio programmers. As a result, it soon became the standard format. The Mid-Continent Broadcasting Company's

successful approach to radio broadcasting helped radio survive and flourish in spite of the popularity of television.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Todd Storz on the 50th anniversary of the founding of his Mid-Continent Broadcasting Company.

**IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SAM GUBODIA**

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 4, 1999*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Sam Gubodia. Sam, a native of Nigeria, has dedicated his life to the academic and economic empowerment of our community. He strives to improve the quality of life for African Americans and the African World. Our society needs more educators and business leaders like Sam because he has helped to rebuild our community. Sam has utilized his knowledge and skills to make positive changes in the African American community.

Before and after completing his doctorate degree in International Finance, Sam has worked diligently to uplift African American and African World people. Upon arriving in the United States, Sam embarked on a promising academic and career path. He worked as a Consular Assistant at the Nigerian Consulate General. As a student at Stony Brook, Sam held many notable positions: for example, he was President, African Students Organization (1977-1979), and he organized several clothing drives for the people of South Africa and Zimbabwe, and he served a President of the Third World Graduate Students Organization (1980).

While attending graduate school at Stony Brook, Sam realized that he would be a great service to his community if he pursued an academic profession, and from there he began to work as an educator. Sam has held many positions as an educator: He taught at Bendel State University, The University of Benin, Stony Brook, and The College of New Rochelle. Currently, Dr. Gubodia is an exemplary Grade Leader-Advisor for the Honors Economic Program at Boys and Girls High School. The lives of many people have been enriched because of Sam, and our community appreciates the important role that he has played as an educator. Sam is also a published scholar, and we appreciate his innovative ideas on economic development.

I commend Sam Gubodia and pray that he will succeed in all future endeavors.