

this stock. However, Section 7(h)(1)(C) of ANCSA provides certain exceptions to the general prohibition on the alienation of Settlement Common Stock. Under Section 7(h)(1)(C)(iii), the holder of Settlement Common Stock may transfer some or all of the Settlement Common Stock to a close family member by inter vivos gift. Gifts of Settlement Common Stock are permitted to, among others, a child, grandchild or great-grandchild.

Alaska state law has been interpreted to sever, for all purposes, the relationship between a family and a child who has been adopted out, or for whom parental rights have been relinquished or terminated. Thus, under existing law, a holder of Settlement Common Stock may not inter vivos gift transfer Settlement Common Stock to a child who has been adopted by another family. The proposed amendment in Section 2 will permit the biological family of an Alaska Native child to make an inter vivos gift to that child of Settlement Common Stock, regardless of the child's adoption into a non-Native family, or the relinquishment or termination of parental rights. The enactment of the provisions of Section 2 will resolve the problem currently faced by some Alaska Native children who are unable to receive shares in an Alaska Native Corporation because the relationship with their biological family has been legally severed under Alaska State law.

Section three. Definition of Settlement Trust.

Congress enacted the settlement trust option in ANCSA to allow Alaska Native Corporations to establish trusts to hold assets for the benefit of Alaska Native Shareholders. As the law currently stands, these trusts may only benefit holders of Settlement Common Stock. The amendments contained in Section three will permit Native Corporation shareholders, by the vote of a majority of shares, to extend this benefit of ANCSA to all of the Native people in their community, including the children and grandchildren of the original stockholders, regardless of whether they yet own stock in the Native Corporation. This amendment redefines "settlement trust" to permit Native Corporations to establish settlement trusts in which potential beneficiaries include shareholders, Natives and descendants of Natives. Because ANCSA was enacted to benefit all Natives, this amendment is in keeping with the original intent of that legislation. At the same time, the interests of Alaska Native Corporation shareholders are protected because this option is available only to those Corporations whose shareholders vote, by a majority of all outstanding voting shares, to benefit non-shareholders

TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF
WAMU

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House to join me in honoring WAMU 88.5 FM's regional public affairs program, Metro Connection, which recently won not one but two Achievement in Radio Awards in the 13th annual competition sponsored by the March of Dimes to recognize excellence in Washington area radio. Washington area resi-

dents are especially proud that this is the fourth consecutive year that Metro Connection is being honored as the best locally produced public affairs long-form program. Washingtonians have long admired the professionalism and wonderfully interesting programming of those sharing in the honors, including News Director Kathy Merritt, line producer David Furst, and reporters Annie Wu, Lakshmi Singh, Julianne Welby, and Lex Gillespie. Metro Connection also won the best news series award for its "20th Century Washington" series, a review of the city of Washington as it has evolved during this century. Kathy Merritt, David Furst, Annie Wu, Lex Gillespie and Andrew Pergam, who received this award, take us on a fascinating journey in a 10 part series, one story for each decade of the century, with special features each month. This is radio at its substantive and interesting best. Those of us fortunate enough to live within listening range of WAMU's Metro Connection value its focus on us, on where we live, and on what we do. Metro Connection is an especially welcome visitor in Washington area homes on Saturday mornings at 11 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, many Members of the House and Senate count themselves among WAMU's 454,000 avid listeners in the Washington area. Congressional Members of every political stripe listen with appreciation to WAMU's variety of news and public affairs programming, to its celebrated and elegant talk show host Diane Rehm, to Public Interest with Kojo Nnamdi, and to its bluegrass and other music. Now Metro Connection and its creators have brought honor to their medium and their hometown station. WAMU is a beacon of broadcasting excellence. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the people who have made WAMU an award winning resource for the residents of the Washington area.

HONORING THE LATE JOE SERNA

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, Joe Serna was a good man and an outstanding Mayor. I was honored to join my colleagues this week and support House Resolution 363, recognizing and honoring Sacramento, California, Mayor Joe Serna, Jr., and expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives to his family and the people of Sacramento on his death.

As a son of an immigrant farm worker, he learned the values of hard work which exemplified his career. Eager to help others, Joe entered the Peace Corps in 1966. When he returned to California, he joined the faculty at California State University, Sacramento, in 1969 becoming a professor of Government. He was so good at energizing and inspiring his students that in 1991 he received the Distinguished Faculty Award.

Joe Serna decided to continue serving his community by being first elected to the Sacramento City Council in 1981 and reelected in 1985 and 1989. He was then elected mayor of Sacramento in 1992 and again in 1996.

Joe Botz of Sacramento wrote a Letter-to-Editor in the Sacramento Bee last week, which I believe embodies Joe Serna's legacy as a political role model and as a leader. Botz wrote, "Most citizens look at the day when citizen-politicians governed us. Serna was a living and working embodiment of those days. He was brash and arrogant as he looked after Sacramento and its citizens' best interests in the larger political level. But on an interpersonal level, he expressed deep concern and intense compassion of all River City citizens, particularly the poor and disadvantaged."

Joe Serna possessed an unparalleled commitment to helping others. He fought for the underdog and befriended those who needed him the most. For that Mr. Speaker, I will always look up to Joe Serna.

H.R. 2668, STREAMLINING FEC

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, let's lift FEC reform out of legislative limbo where it has been for twenty years. Before we leave for the year let's pass H.R. 2668, a bill to streamline FEC procedures and improve FEC reporting.

The bill is not controversial—it has broad support on both sides of the aisle and it is needed. There is simply no reason not to pass this bill today.

In September I wrote to Speaker HASTERT requesting that this bill be placed on the suspension calendar. It is a good bill—sponsored by House Administration Chair BILL THOMAS—and voted unanimously out of the House Administration Committee earlier this year.

The bill contains most of the provisions in the bill introduced earlier this year. It was prepared with the support and assistance of the six Republican and Democratic FEC Commissioners. In addition to the support of the Commission, H.R. 2668 is supported by Members on both sides of the aisle.

It would: Improve disclosure of State activity; make it easier for contributors to comply with the law; remove obsolete provisions; and broaden candidate's commercial lending options.

Earlier this year, we voted on this bill on the floor of the House. Like almost every one of my Democratic colleagues and a broad group of Republicans, I voted against the bill. I voted against FEC reform because it would have blocked a vote on the bi-partisan campaign finance reform bill sponsored by Reps. SHAYS and MEEHAN. FEC reform deserves our support on its own merits. It should not continue to be used as a pawn in the larger debate.

In my opinion, FEC reform should not have been a part of that debate. That is because—as Chairman THOMAS has repeatedly stressed, H.R. 2668 is not about campaign finance reform—H.R. 2668 is about making the routine procedural reforms that are needed over the course of time by all agencies.

Unlike other Executive branch agencies that request and receive noncontroversial legislative changes to aid in the efficient and effective operation of the agency—changes requested by the FEC simply don't happen.