EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

November 19, 1999

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, today, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I wish to acknowledge the 70th birthday of a dear friend, Mr. Jack Mahon.

Born John Francis Mahon, Jr., on December 16, 1929, Jack is the son of Irish immigrants who came to my district in the early part of this century. Jack's parents: John Francis Mahon Sr. from County Offaly; and Katherine Fullerton from County Donegal, came to America and settled in the City of Pasadena where Jack attended St. Andrews Elementary School. Later, Jack attended Loyola High School in Los Angeles.

Jack served our great nation in military service, joining the Army in the 1950's, completing a tour of duty in Korea during the war. In 1955, Jack married Eileen McGoldrick, also the daughter of Irish Immigrants residing in my district. Shortly thereafter, Jack was accepted to the Los Angeles Police Academy, and embarked on a law enforcement career which would eventually span 30 years. Jack worked every division within the L.A.P.D., including the prestigious Metro Division, were he rose to the rank of Lieutenant. Before retiring from the police department with 20 years of professional community service, Jack worked as special assistant to Deputy-Chief Daryl Gates. Jack retired to assume elected duties as Marshall of Los Angeles County, where he diligently served the community for another 10 years.

Jack Mahon's professional reputation is matched by his dedication to public and sports, as he has been a life long member of the Republican Party, and consistently shoots a round of golf in the 70's.

In 1981, Jack married Betty Allyn. Since his retirement in 1985, Jack and Betty have shared themselves between loving friends, children, and grandchildren, while remaining active in their community.

Descendant from his humble Irish roots, Jack Mahon has lived life committing himself to bettering his family and his community. Surely, we are all better off having known Jack Mahon.

On this day we not only say, Happy Birthday, but we thank Jack: for his selfless service to God and country, to family and community. Happy Birthday, Jack, and may God bless you.

INTRODUCTION OF DERIVATIVES MARKET REFORM ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining with the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) in introducing the Derivatives Market Reform Act.

In recent years, over-the-counter (OTC) derivative financial products have become an important component of modern financial markets. They provide useful risk management tools for corporations, financial institutions, and governments around the world seeking to respond to fluctuations in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, commodity prices, and movements in stock or other financial markets. While OTC derivatives are frequently used to hedge risk, or to lower borrowing costs, they can also be used by dealers or end-users to make risky and highly speculative synthetic bets on the direction of global financial markets. The potential for such derivatives to contribute to excessive speculation or leveraging has raised concerns over the potential for OTC derivatives to increase, rather than reduce the risk of catastrophic financial loss or contribute to a future financial panic or meltdown in global financial markets.

In addition, the concentration of market-making functions in a small number of large banks and securities firms, the close financial inter-linkages OTC derivatives have created between each of these firms, and the sheer complexity of the products being traded raise serious concerns about the potential for derivatives to contribute to serious disruptions in the fabric of our financial system. The potential for the failure of a key market participant to trigger a meltdown—or the specter of a potential disruption in the financial markets due to highly leveraged and complex investment strategies—was illustrated by last years' near collapse of the hedge fund known as Long-Term Capital Management (LTCM).

The LTCM affair has underscored the need for regulators to minimize the potential for OTC derivatives to contribute to a major disruption in the financial markets, either through excessive speculation and over-leveraging, or due to inadequate internal controls and risk management on the part of major derivatives dealers or end-users. Today, Senator DORGAN and I are introducing legislation in both the House and the Senate which would provide for certain targeted derivatives market and hedge fund reforms in the aftermath of the LTCM affair. Here's what our bill would do:

First, the bill would define "derivative" to include any financial contract or other instrument that derives its value from the value or...
performance of any security, currency exchange rate, or interest rate (or group of index thereof). With respect to instruments based on currency exchange rate, future options would be treated as the most common type of derivative instrument—forward rate contracts—but would include foreign currency swaps that have a duration greater than 270 days. Securities traded on an exchange or on the NASDAQ, futures or options on futures, and bank or savings institutions deposits also would be excluded.

Second, the definition of “security” in section 3(a)(10) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) would be amended to include derivatives based on the value of any security. While options on securities already are included within this definition, the amendment would bring equity swaps explicitly under the definition of “security” and subject transactions in equity swaps to regulation under the Exchange Act.

Third, persons defined as “derivatives dealers” would become subject to Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) regulation. Derivatives dealers that are not (1) registered broker-dealers or (2) material associated persons of registered broker-dealers that have filed notice with the Commission, would be required to register with the Commission and would be subject to Commission rule-making and enforcement authority. Commission rule-making would focus on financial responsibility and related recordkeeping and reporting requirements, as well as on the prevention of fraud. Such dealers also would be required to become members of an existing registered securities association, or any registered securities association that may be established for derivatives dealers. Rules adopted by a registered securities association would focus on the prevention of sales practice abuses and the establishment of internal controls.

Derivatives dealers that are material associated persons of registered broker-dealers would be treated as a general matter, to file a form of notice with the Commission. Alternatively, such dealers would be permitted to register as a derivatives dealer. Dealers that file notice would be regulated indirectly through their broker-dealer affiliate. The risk assessment provisions already in place under the Exchange Act, which would be amended by this bill, would be utilized for this purpose. In addition, the broker-dealer’s net capital would be based, in part, on the derivatives activities of its affiliated derivatives dealer. The designated examining authority for the broker-dealer would have rulemaking and enforcement authority with respect to the derivatives activities of both the broker-dealer and the affiliate. The Commission also would be authorized to adopt rules designed to prevent fraud.

Fourth, the bill would require the filing of quarterly reports by hedge funds, including a statement of the financial condition of the fund, income or losses, cash flows, changes in equity, and a description of the models and methodologies used to calculate, assess, and evaluate market risk, and such other information as the Commission deems necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors. The Commission is authorized to allow any confidential proprietary information to be segregated in a confidential section of the report that would be available to the regulators, but would not be disclosed to the public.

Fifth, the bill would also direct the SEC to use its existing large trader reporting authority to issue a final large trader reporting rule. Congress gave the SEC this authority in the Market Reform Act of 1990 in order to assure that the trading activities of hedge funds and other large traders could be tracked by the SEC for market surveillance and other purposes. Nearly 10 years later, the SEC has failed to issue a final rule, and the draft rules it issued years ago are gathering dust. Our bill would change that.

Sixth, the bill would reinstate the intermarket coordination reporting requirements established by Section 8(a) of the Market Reform Act of 1990. This reporting requirement, which expired in 1995, was intended to promote cooperation by the various financial regulatory agencies requiring them to report to Congress on an annual basis on their efforts to coordinate regulatory activities, protect payment systems and markets during emergencies, establish adequate margin requirements and limits on leverage, and other matters affecting the soundness, stability, and integrity of the markets.

Adoption of this bill would close the regulatory black hole that has allowed derivatives dealers affiliated with securities or insurance firms to escape virtually any regulatory scrutiny. It will give the SEC the tools needed to monitor the activities of these firms, assess their impact on the financial markets, and assure appropriate protections are provided to their customers against any fraudulent or abusive activities. It would require hedge funds to provide some public reporting regarding their holdings. It is not a radical restructuring of the derivatives market or of the hedge fund industry; it is focused laser-like on the real gaps that exist in the current regulatory framework that need to be closed in the aftermath of the LTCM affair.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation.

A SALUTE TO MAL WARWICK & ASSOCIATES ON ITS TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA LEE
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute, congratulate and honor Mal Warwick & Associates on celebrating its twentieth anniversary.

Mal Warwick & Associates is a fund-raising and marketing agency serving non-profit organizations and socially-responsible businesses. Over the years, they have assisted a wide variety of organizations both large and small; local, state, and national, as well as six Democratic Presidential candidates.

Mal Warwick, founder and Chairman of Mal Warwick & Associates has been a consultant, author and public speaker for non-profits for more than thirty-five years. Mr. Warwick is very involved in the community affairs of the City of Berkeley in California, including serving on the boards of the Berkeley Community Fund and the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra. Prior to Mr. Warwick’s move to Berkeley, Mr. Warwick served for three years as a Peace Corps volunteer in the 1960s.

Due to the efforts of Mal Warwick & Associates over the last twenty years, the quality of life of many non-profits and the communities they serve, has been enhanced tremendously. Thanks to these efforts, many voluntary organizations have built the foundation towards a more peaceful, productive and better way of life for citizens throughout the world.

I proudly join my friends, colleagues and clients of Mal Warwick & Associates in recognizing its twentieth anniversary and also join in the celebration of its many years of extraordinary service to people and organizations through the Bay Area and the world.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER CONTINUES PIONEERING MEDICAL ADVANCES

HON. FLOYD SPENCE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of the House exciting medical advances that are taking place at The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMC), in Jackson, Mississippi. During the last thirty years, UMC has gained an international reputation as a leader in the development of landmark medical procedures. In 1964, the first heart transplant in the world was performed at UMC. In 1988, I received a double-lung transplant there, which saved my life. At that time, the procedure that I underwent was not being performed anywhere else in the United States.

More recently, UMC Assistant Professor of Vascular Interventional Radiology and Body Imaging, Dr. Patrick Sewell, has pioneered a revolutionary procedure that offers great promise for the treatment of cancer patients. This innovative work combines Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and cryosurgery techniques to destroy tumors. This “cryoablation” has been successfully performed by Dr. Sewell on cancer patients, with amazing results.

Additionally, Dr. Sewell, and Dr. Ralph Vance, another UMC physician, have traveled to China, to share another new “cutting-edge” technology with medical practitioners in that country. The procedure, which was developed by Dr. Sewell, and which is known as “radiofrequency of the lung tumor ablation,” utilizes a radiofrequency probe with an Interventional CAT scan to perform lung cancer surgery.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to have a connection, through my transplant experience, to the ongoing pioneering efforts at UMC that are making significant breakthroughs in medicine. I would like to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD two articles that elaborate on these impressive efforts, which are changing the way cancer is treated.