

schools to bring about maximum performances from their teachers and students, and the federal government will learn from the local and state officials which programs work and which programs need to be changed.

Once again I applaud the efforts of the Education Committee and I urge my fellow colleagues to support the ed flex bill.

H.R. 1074 THE REGULATORY RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT OF 1999

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 1999

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. 1074, the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act of 1999. The Regulatory Right-to-Know Act is an important tool to understand the magnitude and impact of Federal regulatory programs. The Act will provide all Americans, including state and local officials, with new tools to help them participate more fully and improve our government. Better information and public input will help regulators ensure better, more accountable decisions and promote greater confidence in the quality of federal policy and regulatory decisions. Better decisions and updated programs will help Americans enhance innovation, improve the quality of our environment, make our families safer, improve our economic security, and improve the quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, we know the right steps. Over the past four years, this Congress has changed the direction of Federal Government from the endless burden of more taxes and spending to the new fiscal discipline of balance and accountability. For the past decade the genius of freedom and innovation has driven American businesses through a quality and productivity revolution. The result of this drive toward efficiency and accountability is an American economy which is the unparalleled envy of the world. The freedom and innovation of millions of Americans in private businesses have brought incredible improvements to our quality of life, health care, education, and prosperity. Through the new emphasis on flexibility and innovation, State and local officials have led the way to safer, cleaner and more prosperous places to live. We in Congress must be the allies of state and local government, American business and families through responsible management of the Nation's regulatory programs to ensure quality in necessary regulation and even greater freedom from unwise regulation.

To do our jobs we must first understand the impact of Federal regulatory programs on our economy and innovation. In addition to taxes, the Federal Government imposes tremendous costs and restrictions on innovation on the private sector, State and local governments and, ultimately, the public through ever increasing Federal regulations. Here too we must drive toward quality, efficiency and accountability.

Some estimates place the compliance costs from Federal regulatory programs at more than \$680 billion annually and project substantial growth even without new legislation. These costs are often hidden in increased prices for

goods and services, loss of competitiveness in the global economy, lack of investment in job growth, and pressure on the ability of State and local governments to fund essential services, such as crime prevention and education. More recently we have heard mayors decry the effect that unwise Federal regulations have on the problems of brownfields redevelopment and preventing reinvestment in our urban areas. As a former mayor of Richmond I am familiar with and very sympathetic to these problems.

Unlike the private sector, where freedom of contract and free market competition drive price and quality, Federal programs are only accountable through the political process. Over the past few decades both Congress and the Executive Branch have driven growth in Federal regulatory programs, creating layer upon layer of bureaucracy at great cost and often with diminishing returns for the American people. Congress and the Executive Branch must take concrete steps to manage and reform these programs. The Regulatory Right-to-Know Act is a fundamental building block for a smarter partnership in federal regulatory programs. The leadership we show or fail to show will affect the quality of life for ourselves and our children.

Bipartisan organizations representing the Nation's governors, mayors, professional city managers, county officials and others are unanimous in their support for the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act. Citizens for a Sound Economy, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and many others agree that the American taxpayers and consumers have the right-to-know the costs and benefits of federal regulations, and have endorsed the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act of 1999.

I would like to thank Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. STENHOLM and others for their leadership on this bill in the 104th, 105th, and 106th Congresses. As evidenced by the original co-sponsorship list, the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act of 1999 has broad bipartisan support. Senator THOMPSON and Senator BREAUX have provided leadership in the Senate and have, once again, introduced the analogue to the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act.

The legislation changes no regulatory standard. It will, however, provide vital information to Congress and the Executive branch so they may fulfill their obligation to ensure wise expenditure of limited national economic resources and improve our regulatory system. Let's not forget that a tax or consumer dollar spent on a wasteful program is a dollar that cannot be spent on teachers, police officers or health care. If we are serious about openness, the public's right to know, accountability, and fulfilling our responsibility as managers, we will enact this important piece of legislation.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. OZUNA

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 1999

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a tribute to Robert L. Ozuna,

who was Chief Executive Officer of New Bedford Panoramex Corporation in Upland, California. Mr. Ozuna died Saturday, March 6, 1999 at Queen of the Valley Hospital in West Covina, California. He was 69.

Robert Ozuna was the oldest of four children born in Miami, Arizona to Mexican-American parents. In 1940, after his father's early death, his family moved to East Los Angeles where he grew up with his mother, brother and two sisters. Robert was required to seek steady work at an early age to assist the family financially.

Robert Ozuna emerged as one of the leading Mexican-American entrepreneurs in Southern California as Founder and President of New Bedford Panoramex Corporation (NBP). He gained his business experience on the job and he gained his engineering education by attending night school in the California community and junior college system.

In 1966, Mr. Ozuna began to build his company with a second mortgage on his residence, a few electrician's hand tools, hard work, and entrepreneurial instincts into the thriving electronics manufacturing business it is today in Upland, California. NBP engages in the design, development, and manufacturing of electronic communication systems and remote monitoring systems for its primary client, the United States Government.

Mr. Ozuna's hard work and dedication were recognized through such honors as the U.S. Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise Award for 1987 and again for 1991. He received the Air Traffic Control Association Chairman's Citation of Merit Award in 1994. He was an active member of the California Chamber of Commerce for various cities and a founder of Casa De Rosa Annual Golf Tournament, which he instituted to raise funds for the Rancho de Los Ninos Orphanage in BajaMar, Mexico.

As industrious as Mr. Ozuna was in business, he was equally involved sharing his prosperity with many philanthropic activities in his community. He was the sponsor of many events in the Hispanic neighborhood where he grew up, and he was a founding director in the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Youth Athletic Association, which promotes educational, athletic and drug awareness programs for more than 60,000 youths in the Los Angeles Metropolitan area.

Robert Ozuna is remembered by his employees at New Bedford Panoramex Corporation as a handsome man who had a passion for life. His concern for his employees and their families along with his abundant generosity to them was always present.

Robert Ozuna was married for 35 years to Rosemary, who passed away in November of 1998. He is survived by his mother, Amelia Ozuna; his sons, Steven Ozuna and Jeff Dominelli; his daughters, Nancy DeSilva and Lisa Jarrett; his sisters, Lillian Gomez and Vera Venegas; and his brother Tony Ozuna. He also leaves 8 grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, March 12th at 12:00 noon, at St. Gregory's Church, 13935 E. Telegraph Rd., Whittier, CA. The burial will follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Ozuna's life epitomized much that is the American dream. He rose