

we should also provide payment for it. And we should provide payment for it in traditional fee-for-service Medicare, as well.

Following is a copy of my bill. I urge that we add this provision to whatever Medicare bill is enacted by this Congress.

THE EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Chairman, yesterday afternoon, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to make it to the House floor to vote in favor of H.R. 1184, The Earthquake Hazards Reduction Authorization Act of 1999 (rollcall vote No. 95). That is why I rise today to publicly submit my support for this important piece of legislation.

H.R. 1184 will do volumes to help prevent property damage and save lives that result from future earthquakes in the United States—with the ultimate goal of actually predicting seismic activity. The more we understand this natural phenomena, the more we can structure safety mechanisms to keep our communities safe during earthquakes.

I am very pleased that H.R. 1184 passed by such a large margin yesterday. Once again, I regret that I could not be here to lend my additional support. I look forward to witnessing the many scientific advances and future successes which will result from this legislation.

OREGON SCHOOL KIDS StRUT THEIR STUFF

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, Students Recycling Used Technology (StRUT) started in June 1995 with the goal of giving Oregon students the technical and business management skills they need for the next century. Over the next two years, four schools in my district: Forest Grove, Hillsboro, Tigard and Sherwood High School, refurbished 1,200 computers and donated them to local schools. This gave the students a working knowledge of computers and also provided their fellow students with better access to the Internet.

What started as a partnership between the Northwest Regional Education Services District and Intel was encouraged to grow by our governor and State legislature. The success of the program spread quickly, and the consortium of organizations expanded to include the Oregon Department of Education, Portland General Electric, and US West. There are now 94 StRUT programs around Oregon with 1,500 students involved, and over 22,000 computers have been placed by this program in our K-12 system.

This Friday, I will be meeting with teachers from around Oregon who will be trained in this

exciting new program. I look forward to hearing their advice on how Congress can implement these kinds of programs at the Federal level. In fact, StRUT is already being replicated in Washington, California, New Mexico, Arizona, and Congresswoman JOHNSON's home state of Texas.

By allowing students access to these essential technical and business skills, and by providing their fellow students with improved access to the Internet, we can help prepare our children to be successful citizens in the information age.

CLEAN WATER TRUST FUND ACT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce a measure which I have supported since the 103rd Congress. This bill, the Clean Water Trust Fund Act, would put all funds collected through Clean Water Act fines and penalties into a trust fund to be used specifically for cleaning up polluted waters. This common sense measure links environmental penalties with environmental remedies, and ensures that money collected for environmental violations will not be lost in Washington.

In Northwest Indiana, one of the most unique and naturally beautiful coastlines in the world has been the site of a major industrial center for over a century. With the advent of environmental regulation in the last fifty years, the companies which had before polluted the waters with impunity had to reform their manufacturing processes and begin paying fines and penalties if their new procedures did not decrease their pollution emissions to an acceptable level. The residents of my hometown were comforted by the understanding that these new rules would protect our environment—our coastline and groundwater and potable water supply—and keep us from being poisoned by the very industries on which we relied for work. But it just has not worked the way it should. Instead of working together, the hand that fines and the hand that cleans are attached to different bodies. Money collected for polluting drinking water can be used for anything from mohair subsidies to McDonalds' overseas advertising. This is clearly not the heroic role of environmental regulation envisioned by my friends and neighbors when we first supported the Environmental Protection Agency's control over how much and what an industry could dump into our nation's waters.

My bill would begin to repair this disconnect. Under the Clean Water Trust Fund Act, residents of Northwest Indiana who read about millions being paid by a local company in Clean Water Act fines will know that money will come back to the region and be used to repair the environmental damage. It is as simple as that. The measure instructs the EPA Administrator to work with the states and turn the funds collected in fines and penalties into environmental remediation for the areas affected.

We can have no higher priority than creating a society where our citizens have the oppor-

tunity to live safely and healthily. Making sure that everyone has access to safe, clean water is one of the most basic requirements of civilization. This measure, which would reconnect penalties to relief, is an important first step. Mr. Speaker, with the support of over thirty of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle, I am pleased to introduce the Clean Water Trust Fund Act.

CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL DAY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Children's Memorial Flag Project and hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting the establishment of a National Children's Memorial Day where we remember all children who die by violence in our country.

The Children's Memorial Flag Project originated in Alameda County, CA, part of which falls in my Congressional district. This project is dedicated to remembering the children who die as a result of abuse, neglect, and homicide. Each time a child dies as a result of violence, the Children's Memorial Flag is flown at half-staff and a young oak tree is planted in the Children's Memorial Grove. This county effort has become a national effort and I would like to acknowledge the efforts of my dear friend, Alameda County Supervisor, Gail Steele, who created the project. Last year, 25 states flew the Children's Memorial flag over their state capitol on the fourth Friday in April which they designated as Children's Memorial Day. I am working with several Bay Area colleagues to introduce legislation that would adopt the Children's Memorial Flag and establish the fourth Friday in April as a national Children's Memorial Day.

Tragedies such as the school shooting which occurred recently in Littleton, Colorado, remind us of how precious our children are. We cannot let these children, nor the thousands of other children who die of violence, be forgotten. I urge my colleagues to join me honoring the memory of children lost to violence this Friday, April 23rd and to adopt this day as National Children's Memorial Day. I hope honoring and remembering these children will be the driving impetus for us to work together as a nation to keep America's children safe from violent crime.

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT ACT

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to sponsor H.R. 1341, "The National Family Caregiver Support Act of 1999." Last month, I joined my colleague, MATTHEW MARTINEZ, in sponsoring this important piece of legislation.