challenging academic standards which all States have developed into the classroom. In addition, this legislation authorizes the President's high-priority $100,000 teacher class-size program enacted as a part of last year's appropriation process. We must ensure that all children in America have talented, dedicated, teachers in small classes and this bill puts on this path.

Another important priority in this legislation is the fostering of supportive learning environments that reduces the likelihood of disruptive behavior and school violence while encouraging personal growth and academic development. This legislation strengthens the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Act by emphasizing the funding of research-based approaches to violence prevention; expands the comprehensive prevention efforts through the Safe Schools/Healthy Students initiative; and encourages reform of America's high schools through increased individualized attention and learning.

In 1994, Congress and the President worked together to set standards for all children and to provide a quality education for them to achieve those standards. Five years later, there is evidence that standards-based reform has increased achievement in many states, while helping spark reforms in others. With this bill, we must build upon the accomplishments of 1994. We can no longer tolerate lower expectations and results for poor and disadvantaged students. We must take the next step by helping schools and teachers bring high standards into every classroom and help every child achieve. The legislation I am introducing today will provide us with the tools to accomplish these vital missions.

TRIBUTE TO THREE MISSOURI PHYSICIANS
DR. GREGORY GUNN, DR. RAY LYLE, AND DR. RUTH KAUFFMAN

HON. IKE SKELTON
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to pay tribute to three excellent physicians who have devoted most of their lives to healing. These dedicated doctors practiced together at the Gunn Clinic in Versailles, Missouri, for over forty years. Dr. Gregory Gunn is a fourth generation physician. He began as a country doctor, making house calls from Jefferson City to Sedalia. He performed difficult surgeries when internal medicine was still a relatively undeveloped territory. He thrived on working long hours, as his daily challenges it presents him. Dr. Ray Lyle treated patients of all ages with consistent kindness and compassion, whether treating the sick, saving lives, making house calls or delivering babies. He served as a member and fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, as a Diplomat of the American Board of Family Physicians, and as President of the Missouri Academy of Family Physicians. As well as a competent physician, Dr. Lyle has also been an active participant in community affairs, contributing to such organizations as the Boy Scouts, the Howard County School Board, Chairman of the Versailles Industrial Trust, Morgan County Coroner, Mid-Mo P.R.S.O. Chairman and charter member of the Rolling Hills Country Club. He also served his county as a Lieutenant Commander in the Medical Corps of the Naval Reserve. Dr. Ruth Kaufman also selflessly served the people of the City of Versailles and Morgan County as a family physician with the Gunn Clinic from 1949 until her retirement on August 2, 1996. In her first year of practice, she performed 65 home deliveries. She served as a member of the American Medical Association, the Missouri State Medical Association, and was both a member and fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians. She, too, was active in the community as Methodist Civic Chairman, Morgan County Coroner, Medical Director at Good Shepherd Nursing and Family Planning doctor at the Morgan County Health Center. She was also involved with Girl Scouting and was a charter member of the Rolling Hills Country Club.

Mr. Speaker, I know the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to these fine Missourians for their selfless dedication to the people and community of Versailles, Missouri.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF
HON. TOM LANTOS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating Asian/Pacific American Heritage month from May 1 to May 31, 1999.

Mr. Speaker, the greatness of our nation rests in its diversity: the diversity of its ideas, the diversity of its experiences, and, above all, the diversity of its peoples. America's institutions are constantly being reinvigorated by the vitality of our country's component communities, with their distinct but equally wondrous values and customs, which fuse together to form a magnificent social mosaic, one made bolder and more dynamic by the contributions of citizens of diverse national origins. We learn from each other, and we share with each other the dividends of our differences.

Throughout the month of May, we celebrate the achievements of millions of Americans by commemorating Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. This year's theme, “Celebrating Our Legacy,” calls attention to the extraordinary gifts that Asian and Pacific Americans have bestowed upon our nation. From the scientific community to the sports world, from the arts to the Internet, their perseverance and patriotism of Asian and Pacific Americans add to this country's greatness.

Internet pioneers such as Jerry Yang prepare our economy for the twenty-first century, while Dr. David Ho leads the crusade against one of the new millennium's most alarming dangers: AIDS. Congressman Bob Matsui and Congresswoman Patsy Mink stand at the forefront of our government's fight for civil rights and social justice, and respected ABC news correspondent Connie Chung keeps America informed about these challenges and others with her insightful investigative report. This nation's cultural heritage has been enriched by the musical brilliance of Seiji Ozawa and Yo-Yo Ma, the creative genius of author Deepak Chopra and fashion designer Vera Wang, and the athletic skills of golfing superstar Tiger Woods and Olympic figure skating legends Kristi Yamaguchi and Michelle Kwan.

Mr. Speaker, these exceptional contributions are all the more evident when one considers the formidable obstacles which Asian and Pacific Americans had to overcome to achieve them. Their long history has featured pervasive discrimination in the form of restrictive quotas, unfounded stereotypes, and, all too often, violent hate crimes. The most infamous example of this bigotry involved the forced detention of Japanese-Americans during World War II, when innocent men, women, and children were expelled from their homes and banished to camps in remote parts of the country. This outrage remains a permanent stain on the history of the American people, sullying an otherwise proud record of support for human rights and individual dignity.

While the American government officially questioned the patriotism of Japanese-Americans on our West Coast, other Japanese-Americans serving in our nation's armed forces in remote corners of the globe were demonstrating the fallacy of such unjust accusations. During the Second World War, the Japanese-American 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat units earned more than 18,000 medals for bravery and valor in battle—52 Distinguished Service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars, and 9,480 Purple Hearts. The 442nd remains to this day the most decorated combat team of its size in the history of the United States Army. Yet, while the brave soldiers of these units were risking their lives to preserve freedom, the government for which they so courageously fought was evicting their family members from their homes and communities.

Mr. Speaker, this is only one of a multitude of examples of Asian and Pacific Americans surmounting the hurdles of prejudice and discrimination to make a difference in every sector of society. It is these innumerable stories of perseverance and success that we celebrate Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the legacy of all Americans of Asian and Pacific descent.