**HONORING THE COLORADO CLASS 3A STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONS—LAMAR HIGH SCHOOL**

**HON. BOB SCHAEFFER**

**OF COLORADO**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Monday, June 7, 1999**

Mr. SCHAEFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Lamar High School boys baseball team on their impressive Class 3A state-championship. The 10-2 victory over Eaton School was a superb contest between two talented and deserving teams. In championship competition, though, one team must emerge victorious, and Lamar proved themselves the best in their class—truly second to none.

The Class A state-championship is the highest achievement in high school baseball. This coveted trophy symbolizes more than just the team and its coach, as it also represents the staunch support of the players’ families, fellow students, school personnel and the community. From now on, these people can point to the 1999 boys baseball team with pride, and know they were part of a remarkable athletic endeavor. Indeed, visitors to this town and school will see a sign proclaiming the Class 3A champions, and know something special had taken place there.

The Lamar baseball squad is a testament to the old adage that the team wins games, not individuals. The combined talents of these players coalesced into a dynamic and dominant baseball force. Each team member also deserves to be proud of her own role. These individuals are the kind of people who lead by example and serve as role-models. With the increasing popularity of sports among young people, local athletes are heroes to the youth of their home towns. I admire the discipline and dedication these high schoolers have shown in successfully pursuing their dream.

The memories of this storied year will last a lifetime. I encourage all involved, but especially the Lamar players, to build on this experience by dreaming bigger dreams and achieving greater successes. I offer my best wishes to this team as they move forward from their Class 3A state-championship to future endeavors.

**THANKS TO “FRAU” JANE EMEPY-THEEP**

**HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT**

**OF WISCONSIN**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Monday, June 7, 1999**

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to share with my colleagues my appreciation for the dedicated service of Ms. Jane Empey-Theep. On June 8th, her family, friends and colleagues are gathering in Milwaukee to celebrate her career and wish “Frau” Empey-Theep well as she retires as Principal of the Milwaukee German Immersion School.

Milwaukee German Immersion School (MGIS) is one of several schools in the Milwaukee Public Schools system offering total language immersion programs that attract children from all over the city. Its success directly reflects the determination and ingenuity of Principal Jane Empey-Theep.

Ms. Empey-Theep began her career with Milwaukee Public Schools over 20 years ago, and when she became MGIS’ Principal in 1989, she brought a wealth of experience to the job. She knew that, to truly excel, MGIS needed to involve and empower students and their parents. Under her direction, that is exactly what MGIS has done. Last year, the Milwaukee PTA chose an MGIS teacher as Teacher of the Year and an MGIS parent as Parent of the Year. The school also won recognition from Redbook Magazine and several other distinctions, including what is perhaps the highest honor: designation by U.S. Department of Education as a Blue Ribbon School.

Jane Empey-Theep has been actively and personally involved in leading MGIS toward excellence. She hasn’t spent the time firmly seated behind her desk. She has been out interacting with the students and the staff, meeting with parents and educators and students. She has worked not only to execute troubleshooting, but also to identify and implement strategies for improvement, and she has empowered the educators, staff and parents of MGIS to do the same.

Now, after over two decades of service to Milwaukee Public Schools and 10 years as Principal, Jane Empey-Theep is hanging up her hall passes. Along with many others in our community, I commend her for her work to push the boundaries of educational excellence and admire her efforts to cultivate the talents of the students at MGIS.

As the parent of two MGIS students, I thank Jane Empey-Theep for making school a place where all kids can learn, grow and excel, and a place where they look forward to going. I am proud to join her friends and admirers in expressing appreciation for her career of dedicated service to our community, to our schools, and to our children.

**A TRIBUTE TO THOMAS L. CONLAN, JR.**

**HON. ROB PORTMAN**

**OF OHIO**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Monday, June 7, 1999**

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of a distinguished constituent and friend, Thomas L. Conlan, Jr. Tom is retiring as co-founder, President and CEO of Student Loan Funding Resources, Inc., which is headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio. Tom has helped to open the doors of college opportunity to hundreds of thousands of young people throughout the region, and the nation during his nearly two decades of dedicated service in education.

In so many areas of his life, Tom’s commitment has been to access and opportunity. He has played an important role in the development of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati. A newly-endowed Ohio foundation, named for his father, Thomas L. Conlan, made a leadership gift to support and advance the Freedom Center’s educational programs for both students and educators. The grant funds will be used to help develop a curriculum for school children focusing on the Underground Railroad, as well as highlighting struggles for freedom across the globe.

In the 1970s, prior to founding SLFR, Tom was Executive Director of the Ohio Energy Advisory Committee, where he led the development of the Ohio winter heating assistance program. He also authored the Federal Home Assistance Program Plan for Ohio. In this work Tom testified before Congress and the Ohio General Assembly on energy assistance for low-income citizens.

His civic involvement over the years includes a founding membership in Ohio Concerned Citizens for the others. He served on the City of Cincinnati’s Energy Conservation Committee; the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Advisory Council to the Little Miami River; and co-chairmanship of the first Little Miami River Cleanup involving 4,000 volunteers. In 1997, he chaired the Education Visioning Committee of the Greater Cincinnati Olympic Commission.

Tom is Vice President of the Hamilton County Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board. He is a former trustee of the Queen City Foundation; the Greater Cincinnati Tall Stacks Commission; and the Catholic Big Brothers Association of Cincinnati.

Tom is also devoted to his family—his wife and partner, Nan; his stepchildren, Kate and Matt; his granddaughter, Morgan Ann; his brother, John, John; five sisters, Gretta, Maureen, Mary Carol, Ginny and Chris; and his nieces and nephews. He also carries dear the memory of his parents.

Nowhere has Tom been more directly responsible for improving the lives of people in need than in this stewardship of the education loan finacing company, SLFR, that he co-founded. During his tenure, SLFR has provided funds and support services to more than 600,000 students. Tom has been a national leader in fashioning education loan policy to benefit America’s students and their families.

In 1993, he helped establish the Coalition for Student Loan Reform that has been a beacon for industry self-reform nationwide. He advocated the superiority of the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP), a long-standing public-private partnership involving private funds, localized administration and loan guarantees from Washington.

Under Tom’s leadership, SLFR developed innovative education loan credit products in Ohio that represent affordable education financing options. The Supplemental Student Loan Program of Ohio, which provides low-cost loans for students and families whose financing needs exceed the amount of assistance available through federal and state financial aid programs, and the Jump Start Loan, which rewards borrowers with a sharply reduced interest rate, are examples of these options.
EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTERNATIONAL TAX SIMPLIFICATION FOR AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS ACT

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing along with my colleagues Representatives HOUGHTON, MATSUI, SAM JOHNSON, HERGER, ENGLISH, and CRANE to introduce our bill, "The International Tax Simplification for American Competitiveness Act of 1999."

There has been general agreement that the current U.S. rules for taxing international income are unduly complex. This legislation addresses these problems by rationalizing and simplifying the international tax provisions of the U.S. tax laws by simplifying foreign tax credits; encouraging policies that provide incentives for performance of research and developing in the United States; enhancing U.S. competitiveness in other industrialized countries; and minimizing revenue loss.

Our current tax policies are out of synch with our trade policies and the realities of the global marketplace. In the early 1960s, U.S. companies focused their manufacturing and marketing strategies in the United States, which at the time was the largest consumer market in the world. U.S. companies generally could achieve economies of scale and rapid growth-selling exclusively into the domestic market. In the early 1960s, foreign competition in U.S. markets generally was inconsequential.

The picture today is completely different. First, U.S. companies now face strong competition at home. Since 1980, foreign direct investment in the United States has increased by a factor of six (from $216 billion to $752 billion in 1997), and imports have tripled as a share of GDP from an average of 3.2 percent in the 1960s to an average of over 9.6 percent over the 1990-97 period.

Second, foreign markets are more attractive today than they were in the past. For example, from 1986 to 1997, foreign sales of S&P 500 companies grew 10 percent a year, compared to domestic sales growth of just 3 percent annually. Foreign markets also afford increasingly attractive investment opportunities.

From the perspective of the 1960s, there was little apparent reason for U.S. companies to direct resources to penetrating foreign markets, since U.S. companies should achieve growth and profit levels that were the envy of their competitors in minimal foreign operations. By contrast, in today's economy, competitive success requires U.S. companies to execute global marketing and manufacturing strategies with the result that provisions of our tax system designed when foreign operations were viewed as presumptively tax-motivated have become increasingly outdated.

It is because of the great changes in global trade that we involved ourselves in this issue. The current rules guiding our international tax policies were written at a time when the focus was on preventing tax avoidance, not on promoting international competitiveness. Our main goal this year is to build on the successes that we had in the 105th Congress. This will be our fourth bill in this area, and our third with our Senate counterparts, Senators HATCH and BAUCUS. It includes some new provisions, but in many ways reflects the reality that much has been done, not only in the fight of the problems facing U.S. industries in this area, but there is a great deal of work left to be done.

Our first order of business is to simplify the international tax regime to ensure American competitiveness both at home and abroad. The tax provisions that we are introducing today will significantly affect the national welfare and will enhance the participation of the United States in the global economy of the 21st century. I look forward to working with my House and Senate colleagues to pass this important piece of legislation into law.

THE ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF CHICAGO CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Association House of Chicago, as it celebrates its 100th anniversary on June 8, 1999. Association House has been serving the community I represent since before the turn of the century. It was founded by more than one hundred women and served as a settlement house and social service agency for immigrants arriving in Chicago.

Throughout its century of public service, the mission and goals of Association House of Chicago have expanded. Association House continues to provide vital services, programs and assistance to families, children, seniors and immigrants throughout our community. Each year, Association House assists nearly 20,000 individuals and families throughout the Chicago area, providing services ranging from the most basic of needs to managing larger government contracts. The expansion of Association House's services during the past two decades led the agency to buy a second facility last year. This growth helps immigrants take naturalization classes, learn English and master trades.

In addition to the programs Association House offers in education, citizenship and job readiness training, Association House offers after-school programs and activities for children. The agency also provides foster care and adoption services, addiction recovery programs and provides emergency food and clothing. The staff of Association House is truly dedicated to their programs and the people they benefit.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Association House of Chicago for building a strong tradition of service toward others. The work that Association House has accomplished since its first days cannot be measured. For one hundred years, Association House has been assisting, teaching and counseling people of all ages, races, cultures and ethnic backgrounds. From preparing people to enter the workforce to teaching them to speak English to caring for at-risk children, Association House has served as a shining beacon of hope in Chicago. I am honored to commend Association House on a...