

That we, the members of the General Assembly, urge the United States Congress to enact legislation eliminating the federal marriage tax penalty. Be it

Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to each member of the Colorado congressional delegation and to Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service.

HONORING CHARLENE NELSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor an individual who, for so many years, has provided a strong voice and dynamic leadership to one of Colorado's schools, Charlene Nelson. In doing so, I would like to honor this individual who, for so many years, has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty.

As a sixth grade teacher at Penrose Elementary School, Charlene Nelson has spent the last 8 years making an impact on her students and teaching how learning can be fun. Specializing in rain forest issues, Mrs. Nelson has sparked lasting interest in her students by contributing to the World Wildlife Fund, and teaching about diminishing rain forests.

With all the things that Mrs. Nelson does to encourage her students, it is not hard to see why she has been awarded the title of "Teacher of the Year". To earn this title, Charlene Nelson was nominated by her peers and selected by a committee of past winners and administrators. Mrs. Nelson has proven herself to be a woman with a warm heart who, selflessly, gives to those who look up to her.

Individuals such as Mrs. Charlene Nelson, who contribute and set a good example to our youth, are a rare breed. Fellow citizens, as well as students, have gained immensely by knowing Charlene Nelson, and for that we owe her a debt of gratitude.

IN MEMORY OF GARRETT R. CROUCH

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Garrett R. Crouch of Warrensburg, Missouri.

Mr. Crouch was born on November 5, 1921, in Bethany, Missouri, the son of Ben G. Crouch and Nina M. Traxler Crouch. On August 29, 1948, he married Sue Robinson in Warrensburg, Missouri. Mr. Crouch was a veteran of WWII, serving in Europe with the United States Army. He was a graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia, receiving a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1947, and a Juris Doctor degree in 1949. He was admitted to the Missouri bar in 1949. At the time, he moved to Warrensburg,

where he practiced law until 1999. He was City of Warrensburg Municipal Judge from 1981 until 1992.

Mr. Crouch was active in the community. He served as Commander of Warrensburg American Legion Post No. 131 and in 1956, as State of Missouri Department Commander. He was a member and past exalted ruler of the Warrensburg Elks Lodge No. 673, a member of Central Missouri State University Board of Regents and from 1989 to 1995, served as President of the Board. He was Director and Past President for Central Missouri State University Foundation and a recipient of the Central Missouri State University Distinguished Service Award in 1995. He was also past President of the Warrensburg Rotary Club, a Paul Harris Fellow, and a member of the Missouri Bar and Johnson County Bar Association. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Warrensburg and a life member of the American Legion.

Mr. Crouch is survived by his wife, Sue; two sons, Garrett and Jeff; and one grandson, Drew.

Mr. Speaker, Garrett Crouch was a true friend through the years, to both myself and my father. He will be missed by everyone who had the privilege to know him. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to this fine Missourian.

LEGISLATION TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced legislation which will amend the provisions of the Trade Act of 1974.

I think that everyone will agree that reimbursement of training costs under the Trade Readjustment Act (TRA) is of critical importance to those individuals who have been negatively impacted by the North American Free Trade Act (NAFTA). I have seen firsthand companies relocating and jobs being lost because of this Act.

Currently, an individual cannot be reimbursed by TRA funds for any training costs which have been incurred prior to the approval of the training program under the TRA.

In fact, an individual in my District encountered this problem. My constituent was laid off due to job relocation and started school just days prior to the certification of the TRA petition. Since the TRA makes no provisions to retroactively approve training, the individual did not receive a reimbursement. His only other choice would have been to deny his training an entire semester which would have meant he would be out of work even longer.

The legislation I introduced today would prevent this from occurring again by providing a retroactive 30-day period, preceding the date the Secretary approves the TRA petition, during which someone could be reimbursed for training expenses under the act.

This is the only way for individuals who try to plan ahead and then find themselves in this

type of situation to take advantage of the funds allocated under TRA.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this modest proposal.

GAY AND LESBIAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB TWENTY-FIVE YEAR FIGHT FOR GAY RIGHTS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the Gay and Lesbian Democratic Club, on its twenty-fifth anniversary.

The Gay and Lesbian Independent Democrats (GLID) began as the Gay Independent Democrats five years after the Stonewall demonstrations.

GLID has played a central role in the fight for gay rights and in the election of openly gay candidates. An early leader of GLID, Christopher Lynn served as the head of New York's Taxi and Limousine Commission and later as NYC Transportation Commissioner. More recently, GLID leaders such as Tom Duane and Deborah Glick, two of the first openly gay persons elected to office in New York, used GLID as a springboard to elected office. In recent years, GLID played pivotal roles in the elections of three gay City Council Members. Christine Quinn, Margarita Lopez and Phil Reed.

As fighters for gay rights, GLID has been in the forefront of the effort to enact an appropriate domestic partnership bill in New York City. At the Federal level, GLID has worked to promote civil rights for gays, including efforts to pass the Anti-Hate Crimes Bill. GLID is one of the leading organizations fighting anti-gay measures like the Defense of Marriage Act and the Religious Liberties Freedom Act.

As part of their celebration GLID will honor three outstanding gay leaders in the city and state of New York. Two of these honorees. Tim Gay and Harry Wieder are long time members of GLID. Through their work with GLID, they have helped to reach out and mobilize gays and lesbians to elect progressive candidates. They have manned the barricades to protest injustices like the murder of Mathew Shepherd and discrimination in the military.

Tim Gay is a long time district leader in the Chelsea area of New York City, Tim Gay's diligence in fighting to improve the quality of life for his constituents has greatly contributed to the revitalization of Chelsea.

Harry Wieder in addition to his activities as a gay activist, has served as a leading advocate for the physically and mentally disabled. As a founder and board member of the 504 Democratic Club (named for a key provision in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973), Harry Wieder has fought tirelessly for the disabled and the reform of our health care system.

Barbara Kavanaugh was one of the first openly lesbian officeholders in New York State. A true trailblazer, Barbara was elected to the Buffalo City Council as an openly gay candidate. She currently serves as the Assistant Attorney General for Buffalo and has been active in the National Stonewall Democratic Federation.