

community from being overburdened by these additional costs, and I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

**CODIFYING THE CLEAN WATER  
ACT**

**HON. MAX SANDLIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 9, 2000*

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill that will codify the 27-year statutory interpretation of the Clean Water Act that has consistently classified forestry activities as a nonpoint source for potential water impairment and specifically exempted forestry activities from permitting requirements. Quite simply, this legislation will preserve the current system whereby our waters are kept clean through cooperative efforts between State and local governments and private landowners.

The 1987 Clean Water Act Amendments enacted section 319 to specifically address nonpoint source runoff, including silviculture, through State Best Management Practice [BMP] programs. Under section 319, any regulatory program to control nonpoint source pollution is at the State level and not at the Federal level. Congress determined that it is the State's responsibility to develop nonpoint source controls and determine if there is a need for regulatory programs. Additionally, it is the State's responsibility to have the legal means in place to enforce a landowner's compliance.

With this congressional intent in mind, Texas has developed a highly successful, voluntary approach to nonpoint source pollution control and a "bad actor" law to enforce the provisions where necessary. Since 1991, the Texas Forest Service, in cooperation with EPA, the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, forest industry, Texas Logging Council, and forest landowner associations, has conducted extensive training of foresters, loggers, and landowners to understand silvicultural Best Management Practices and how to implement them. To date, over 850 loggers and foresters have been trained on BMPs. In 10 years since forestry BMPs were developed in Texas, 87 percent of all logging sites across twelve million acres are in compliance with recommended BMPs.

The States have done a good job of working with the private landowners to clean up our streams and lakes. Opening up the process to unnecessary and burdensome Federal regulations would only have a negative impact on the States' ability to improve land use decisions. My legislation will allow the current, voluntary, nonpoint source program to continue building on its successes by ensuring that States can continue to treat forestry activities as nonpoint sources for potential water impairment. This bill keeps in tact the congressional intent of the Clean Water Act that identifies most water pollution from silvicultural activities as nonpoint in nature, thus exempting private landowners from Federal permitting requirements.

**EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS**

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. EVA M. CLAYTON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 9, 2000*

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 9, Tuesday, February 8, 2000, I was absent due to my husband's illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

**IN HONOR OF MR. GUILLERMO  
DESCALZI FOR HIS ACCOMPLISH-  
MENTS IN JOURNALISM AND  
FOR BEING HONORED BY THE  
COLEGIO DE PERIODISTAS DE  
CUBA**

**HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 9, 2000*

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Guillermo Descalzi for his vast achievements in journalism and to congratulate him on being honored by the Colegio de Periodistas de Cuba.

Born in Lima, Peru, Mr. Descalzi came to the United States at the age of nineteen to attend Canisius College in Buffalo, New York. Mr. Descalzi received his Bachelors of Science degree from Canisius College in 1968 and went on to earn a Masters in Arts from the State University of New York at Buffalo. After completing his education, Mr. Descalzi returned to his native Peru to teach at the University of San Marcos.

Mr. Descalzi's impressive career in television journalism began when he returned to the United States and joined the Spanish International Network (SIN), now known as Univision. Knowing the growing demand for news and programming from within the Hispanic community, Mr. Descalzi spearheaded the network's first-ever national newscast in Spanish to be televised in the United States. Because of his vision and commitment to address the needs and concerns of Hispanics, Mr. Descalzi soon became one of Univision's national correspondents.

Continuing his goal of providing news coverage to the often marginalized Hispanic community, Mr. Descalzi was the first continental correspondent to link the Americas via the television airwaves. By airing footage and covering stories affecting Latin America, Mr. Descalzi's efforts provided a connection for Hispanic Americans to their heritage and culture.

Currently, Mr. Descalzi is the host of the award-winning investigative newsmagazine, "Ocurrio Asi." Featuring a broad range of topics, "Ocurrio Asi" goes behind the scenes and the headlines to tell the untold story and extract the truth. Mr. Descalzi's unyielding efforts have helped the show win more than 40 Emmy Awards from the Academy of Television, Arts, and Sciences, attracting presidents, celebrities, sports heroes, and activists to appear on this show.

For his unmatched journalistic achievements and integrity, and his work on behalf of the

*February 9, 2000*

Latino community, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Descalzi. His dedication and hard work have truly earned him this recognition.

**RECOGNIZING THE HOMESTEAD  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC  
TEAM**

**HON. PETER DEUTSCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 9, 2000*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Homestead Senior High School academic team. This distinguished group of students participated in the 20th Congressional District "We the People" championship, held on December 9, in Miami, Florida. It is a pleasure for me to honor this team for winning this important competition.

Since the program's creation in 1987, "We the People" has encouraged students to participate as active citizens, acknowledging the responsibility each one has in our democracy's present and future. The program's curriculum is designed to complement the classroom experience, enabling elementary and secondary students to acquire additional knowledge and understanding of the Bill of Rights. Students are then given the opportunity to apply their knowledge of the Constitution to various activities, such as critical thinking exercises, problem-solving activities, and mock congressional hearings. These hands-on activities allow the students to demonstrate their knowledge of historical and current events, defending their opinion on these issues relative to constitutional principles that they have studied.

The Homestead Senior High School academic team is well known for its past successes in the "We the People" competition. Not to be outdone by previous groups that have participated in the event, this year's championship team includes 19 students: Humberto Abeja, Diana Amador, Bobbi Andersan, Michael Bundy, Gloria Camacho, Monique Delatorres, Jason Gracia, Brandace Hopper, Elizabeth Martinez, Brandon Mike, Carlita Peralta, Janet Prevey, Rafael Quinquilla, Henry Rogers, Rocio Sanchez, Natalie Sawyer, Willie Smith, Chevonda Walker, and Symone Williams. I would also like to recognize the hard work and dedication of Mr. David Marshall, the teacher who was instrumental in preparing these students for this prestigious competition.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Homestead Senior High School academic team for their extraordinary effort and success in winning the "We the People" championship. This is truly an accomplishment that Homestead Senior High School can be proud of.