

September 22, 2000 will mark the 51st anniversary of the founding of the American Business Women's Association. For over 50 years the members of this association have recognized that education and skilled training are crucial in today's technological society. These enterprising women hold active, responsible positions on all levels of business and will play an increasingly powerful role in the American workforce.

The local chapters of the A.B.W.A. have made scholarships available to students to further their education and have provided financial assistance to students returning to the workforce by enabling them to attend college. Through the improvement of individual skills, leadership abilities, knowledge of diversified business techniques and business relations, these diverse women continue to ensure the future advancement of the chapters of the American Business Women's Association.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the women of the American Business Women's Association for their support and contributions to the public and private sectors of our country by helping women advance through education.

SCOUTING FOR ALL ACT

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my most profound opposition to H.R. 4892, the so-called Scouting for All Act, which would repeal the federal charter of the Boy Scouts of America. As an Eagle Scout, a member of the Scout Council, and a lifelong advocate of Scouting, I am both saddened and dismayed by this misguided attempt to bully one of the finest youth organizations in America. Since its inception in 1910, the Boy Scouts have instilled in tens of millions of young men the ideals of good citizenship, patriotism, and service to others. Perhaps no organization in our nation's history has done more to prepare America's youth for the challenges and responsibilities they will face as adults.

I hope the irony of this legislation is not lost on my colleagues. In the name of tolerance, the author of this bill is attempting to harness the power of the federal government to change an organization simply because it does not share her views. This bill represents an incredibly arrogant attempt to impose the beliefs of a small minority on a private institution. And it seeks to demonize one of the most fundamentally decent groups in America.

Mr. Speaker, the Scout Oath includes the pledge that a Scout will keep himself "morally straight." Whether one believes homosexuality is inconsistent with that oath or not, the Boy Scouts of America are entitled to interpret their oath, as well as set their own criteria for membership, as they see fit. I would submit to my colleagues that denying them that right would demonstrate a supreme disrespect for the right of people to associate freely, which the Constitution guarantees.

The problem with this legislation should be obvious to anyone who respects the right of

Americans to organize themselves as they choose. The legislative power of this Congress should not be used as a tool to shape the policies of private organizations in ways that are pleasing to the political class.

In an age when America's young people are fed a steady diet of violence and obscenity, it is absurd that Congress is targeting an institution as wholesome as the Boy Scouts. In an age when school shootings capture headlines and we busy ourselves combating teen drug use, it is shameful that some of my colleagues would assail an organization dedicated to such principled goals as the Boy Scouts. I urge my colleagues to reject this offensive legislation and send a clear message to the nation's Scouts that they have both the support and admiration of the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to flight delays, I was unavoidably detained in North Carolina yesterday and unable to cast a vote on Roll Call Votes 477 and 478. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call Vote 477 and YEA on Roll Call Vote 478. I ask unanimous consent that the permanent record reflect these intended votes.

TRIBUTE TO PERRY HALL ON ITS 225TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a very special community located in Maryland's 3rd Congressional District. The Perry Hall community is celebrating its 225th anniversary this year.

Perry Hall is a thriving, suburban community of 40,000 residents located 10 miles northeast of Baltimore City. It was founded in 1775 by Harry Dorsey Gough, who purchased a 1,000-acre estate called The Adventure. He renamed it Perry Hall after his family's home near Birmingham, England. On that site he built a mansion that became known for magnificent gardens and distinctive architecture.

In the years during and after the Civil War, German and Irish families began to settle in the community surrounding the mansion. These families worked hard and developed a thriving dairy and nursery industry. In 1875, Eli Slifer and William Meredith bought the "Perry Hall" property, divided it and sold lots to immigrant families, who then began raising "stoop crops" such as celery and carrots.

Perry Hall began its transformation from rural hamlet to suburban community in the years following World War II. Brick bungalows were built for returning GI's and their brides. New schools were built to serve their growing families and the first shopping center arrived in 1961.

In 1981, the transformation was completed with construction of White Marsh Mall. While the farms and forests of Perry Hall have been replaced by housing developments, shopping centers and new businesses, the most important part of Perry Hall still remains: its friendliness and warmth.

This year, Perry Hall has celebrated its 225th year with a series of events, picnics and concerts. The Perry Hall Improvement Association will cap off this anniversary year with the Millennium Ball on Nov. 3, 2000.

I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing congratulations to all who live in Perry Hall, Maryland, and in wishing them the best on this historic anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PROFESSOR CARL SWARTZ

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Professor Carl Swartz upon receiving the Educational Excellence and Distinguished Service Award for 2000. Professor Swartz is a deserving recipient and a tremendous asset for Three Rivers Community College.

Professor Swartz is a well-respected professor of business at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich, Connecticut. He has been teaching courses at Three Rivers since 1971 and has had the distinct honor to serve as chairman for the business administration and marketing programs for 14 years. While at Three Rivers, Carl has been an advisor to the business club and developed new courses in industrial supervision, salesmanship, labor relations, human resource management and advertising. Carl has also served on many committees and was a member of the White House Small Business Advisory Committee during the Carter administration. In addition, in 1999, Carl received the Congress of Connecticut Community Colleges Recognition award for his invaluable work at Three Rivers.

Professor Swartz has gone beyond the role of professor and has been active in the community as well. He has represented Three Rivers on the TVCCA Board of Directors, served as a member of the state council on Vocational Education and written a weekly column for the Norwich Bulletin. By involving himself in the educational and social aspects of his students, he has created a solid foundation for the future of our community.

Mr. Speaker, I Join residents from Norwich in congratulating Professor Carl Swartz on receiving this prestigious award. He is a scholar, a teacher and an example for all.