Diego are seeking solutions to this terrible crisis, I am introducing this bill in an effort to formulate a long-term energy plan.

The Energy Efficient Buildings Incentives Act will provide tax incentives for the construction of energy efficient buildings. Structures of this nature could potentially cut energy usage by as much as 50 percent. This would result in nearly 6 percent reduction in air emissions over the next 10 years—equivalent to taking 40 percent of the automobiles off the road.

The bill will offer tax incentives to encourage the production and sale of technologically advanced, energy-efficient buildings and equipment. The legislation is structured to promote the creation of competitive markets for new technologies and designs that are not widely available today, but have the possibility of being cost effective to the consumer in the future. The incentives will apply to:

- Efficient new residential buildings that save 30% to 50% in energy costs compared to national model codes, including a higher incentive for higher savings. Efficient heating, cooling, and water heating equipment that reduce emissions and peak electric loads by about 20% (lower incentives) and 30%-50% (higher incentives) compared to national standards.
- Efficient commercial buildings with 50% energy and power cost savings. Residential-scale solar hot water and photovoltaic equipment.

The design and administration for these energy efficient structures is based on the track record of successful state programs over the past decade. Buildings account for some 35% of air pollution emissions nationwide, and cost their owners over $250 billion a year in energy costs. They also contribute to well over half of peak electric power demand. If enacted promptly the incentives in this bill will begin to mitigate electric peak reliability problems by the summer of 2001.

This bill will help both families and businesses reduce annual energy costs, saving over $80 billion in present value over the next decade. Energy costs of businesses are tax deductible under current law, so reductions in energy costs means billions of dollars in saving to the Federal government.

Please join me in supporting the Energy Efficient Buildings Incentives Act which will provide for a cleaner environment and help reduce energy needs, thus postponing the need for building new power plants as well as helping to save our environment.

**SUPPORTERS OF S. 2718—THE ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS INCENTIVES ACT**

- Natural Resources Defense Council
- Environmental Defense
- Consumer's Choice Council
- U.S. PIRG
- World Wildlife Federation
- Defenders of Wildlife
- American Oceans Campaign
- Environmental and Energy Study Institute
- American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
- Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation, Inc.
- Michigan Environmental Council Minnesota for an Energy Efficient Economy
- League of Conservation Voters
- Union of Concerned Scientists
- National Wildlife Federation
- Sierra Club

**EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS**

Petrocel S.A.
Rmax, Inc.
Stephen Co.

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT OF 2000**

**SPEECH OF HON. JACK QUINN OF NEW YORK**

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, every day, at least one child will die as a result of domestic violence. Every few minutes, approximately nine women are abused around the nation. For this reason, we must reaffirm our commitment to combating domestic violence by reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act.

H.R. 1248, the Violence Against Women Act, provides women and their local law enforcement offices the necessary resources to escape domestic violence. The reauthorization of this Act would preserve funding for abused women, grants for training police forces, a national domestic violence hotline, and grants for victim services and prevention programs.

Women seeking to escape abusive relationships require legal assistance to be free from such abuse, including assistance in obtaining a divorce, custody of their children, or even to obtain a change of address or security number for safety. Since 1994, the Violence Against Women Act has provided over $1.5 billion in grants that have been used to encourage arrests, train police, prosecutors and judges, as well as provide critical victim services.

Reauthorization of this Act includes new support for transitional housing, allowing up to $30 million over four years to assist domestic violence survivors move beyond shelters into safe permanent housing. The new Act would expand the reach of the program to support groups such as elderly, disabled and Native American women. Furthermore, the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act would allow states and local communities to engage in long-range planning without continually fearing that funds will be lost in the next fiscal year.

There is much evidence of the success the Violence Against Women Act has had in providing assistance to women at risk of abuse. Calls to the Domestic Violence Hotline have doubled in the last six months, to a rate of 13,000 calls per month, and use of battered women’s shelters has been steadily increasing, all since the inception of the Violence Against Women Act. These programs need to be funded at the highest possible levels so that families in need of safety and protection have full and adequate access to such assistance.

The passage of H.R. 1248 is necessary to confirm congressional commitment to fighting violence against women for the next five years. We must do what we can to protect and assist women and children who are the unfortunate victims of domestic violence.