

the day after election but he is a farmer and I knew he would be up. So I called him and did not identify myself. I merely said, "Mr. Chairman." And he responded, "How sweet it is."

Mr. Speaker, it has been sweet working with BILL. BILL really believes in education. He has educated me and the full committee that we should look for quality and results, and that has been his theme all the way through his time here.

On the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, we have had no greater champion in this House than BILL GOODLING, both on Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Education and the Workforce. He finally put through this House a bill leading us to full funding of that 40 percent of extra cost of IDEA.

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON) and I and BILL GOODLING, we worked together on I think the best higher education bill that we have ever passed. It was a bipartisan bill and passed this House, I think, around 418 to 1, and the Senate 95 to nothing. We have worked well together because we are really concerned about the fact that this House had to come together on those issues that really touched American children and young people.

BILL has always had that it is his belief that when we write education bills, we do not think Democrat, we do not think Republican, we think what is good for the children of this country. And the children in this country one better off because of BILL GOODLING: in their education, in their nutrition, in their approach to life.

BILL, thank you for what you have done. God bless you.

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, let me say I became friends with BILL GOODLING as a freshman Member here. The Pennsylvania delegation would from time to time get together and have lunch. He was someone who I consider as a mentor.

We have all heard about his education background as a teacher, a coach, an administrator, and truly someone who knows the passion and speaks with the passion of education for all the kids in our country. Few know better than BILL GOODLING that a solid education will provide all workers with the necessary foundation to compete in a highly competitive workforce.

He is a good friend, from those early luncheons in the early days in the House to the time where we had offices just across the aisle from each other. He would wander into our office and pick up the Inquirer, look for the sporting results. I think particularly he was looking for the horse racing results. Would come in and talk with all the Members of our staff. He is just a first-class gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have served with him, proud to call him my friend, and I wish him the very best in his retirement years.

THE RETIREMENT OF HON. WILLIAM GOODLING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I could not help but notice as I walked in the Chambers that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) was speaking and he talked about our interest in national defense. He probably does not know that I entered public affairs some years ago as a member of a local school board, running for that school board largely because at the time I had four children in the public schools.

Mr. Speaker, I must say that the job that was being done for those kids and with those kids at a local public elementary school was truly just short of fantastic, and I ran for the school board in order to try to extend that kind of local education in my local community.

Over the years, all of us have seen some significant change in education and the way it works and sometimes does not work so well. Upon arriving in the Congress, that interest in education continued. The first thing I did was to look for leadership on my side of the aisle. The first person I looked to was BILL GOODLING.

So it is a great privilege for me to rise today and express my strong feelings of not just support, but the reality that the House will dearly miss his leadership in this very, very important field.

BILL has taught many of us many things. I remember in that first term, I was asking some of my colleagues about who provided the kind of leadership we needed in education, and I had a conversation with my friend, Dick Cheney, who was then a part of my freshman class, but he had been around Washington for a while. He pointed to BILL GOODLING as the guy to seek out if I wanted some counsel.

I wanted to share with BILL probably the most important lesson I think he has reminded me of during these years by way of a story that relates to my comments about Dick Cheney. Not very long ago in my home town of Redlands, Dick Cheney and his wife, Lynn, were present and they were involved in a panel in a classroom with about 90 people present, and of course the media is always there. But on the right-hand side there was this very interesting panel made up of two administrators, a Hispanic and an Anglo, a second grade teacher of Asian descent and a Hispanic mother.

The reason they were there is because they had recently participated in a program where for some weeks they went to Texas to look at what was going on in education there and they brought it back to Redlands to imple-

ment those programs in our schools. They described the fantastic result of this effort, making the point that BILL GOODLING has made for me that local schools run best when they are run by local people, and that we at the Federal level need to make sure we are careful about the way we spend those 10 cents on the dollar that we give to the schools and not try to dominate those schools from Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, I thank BILL GOODLING for that and for all of his leadership for years in the Congress.

TRIBUTES TO CHAIRMAN BILL GOODLING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOEFFEL) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my colleague from Ohio (Mr. SAWYER).

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOEFFEL) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, in a few days, or maybe a little longer, all of us will be heading home. Most of us will be flying. BILL will be driving. And for the first time in his more than 25 years in Congress, he will be going home without the expectation of returning for the long term. That will be sad for all of us who have worked with him.

He has provided lessons to us all in more ways than we can count. I want to concentrate on just one though. When most of us go home, we will go home by getting on airplanes. And at some point before that plane takes off, there will be a flight attendant who comes and stands before us and announces all of the emergency procedures and will say that in the unlikely event of an emergency, that oxygen masks will deploy from the compartment overhead. If we are traveling with children, they will tell us to put on our own oxygen mask first and then put on those for the children.

It seems kind of counterintuitive, those of us who care as deeply as all of us do about children. We do not think that that is the right thing to do. But in the end, it is, of course, the right thing to do, because we need to be in a position to take care of those children.

Mr. Speaker, BILL GOODLING has understood that in a way that has borne itself out in policy across this Congress throughout his 13 terms. One of his proudest accomplishments I am sure is the development of the Even Start program. When he was superintendent at Spring Grove area schools, BILL GOODLING noticed that the youngsters who were having the most difficulty in school were often the children of some former students who had also not performed well academically. Working

with his best teachers, he developed a program which would provide focused literacy assistance to those children and to their parents at the same time, so that the parents could help reinforce the skills of the children.

When he came to Congress, he developed this into the Even Start program, which has been a model of what it means for parents to be their children's first and most important teacher by improving the academic skills of the parents themselves.

His work on the National Literacy Act, during a time when we were having enormous difficulty getting anything passed through this Congress, the National Literacy Act was the only education legislation that was enacted into law during that session of Congress.

Today, the Literacy Involves Family Together Act, the LIFT Act, will extend his literacy legacy into the 21st century and beyond.

The truth of the matter is that what the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) implied is a vivid truth in the life of BILL GOODLING. If one has ever really been a teacher, they are always a teacher.

Mr. Speaker, I say to the gentleman, We are learning from you still, BILL.

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman from Ohio for his eloquence.

Mr. Speaker, those of us in Pennsylvania are very proud of BILL GOODLING. I would simply like to add my best wishes to him and my congratulations to him for his long and illustrious career and note in particular with my support and gratitude, his dedication to the concept of local control of education.

Every time we try in Congress to deal with educational matters, we can be accused of trying to interfere somehow with the very valid principle of local control of education. I think that Mr. GOODLING has always held our feet to the fire as an institution to make sure we did not interfere with that. But he has supported notable legislation, like the Education Flexibility Act, which gives more flexibility locally, while also understanding that the Federal Government has a significant role to play in promoting public schools.

I think that BILL GOODLING got that balance just about right, and we will remember his leadership on that, and so many other educational issues, after he has left these halls, but certainly not left our memory. We will be grateful to him for many years to come.

BILL GOODLING, THE MAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today, I do not want to talk about the legislative accomplishments of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING). I want to talk about the man.

Mr. Speaker, I had a 26-year business career. I met a lot of business leaders. I was fortunate to have 19 years in State government, and I know most of Pennsylvania's leaders of today. This is my fourth year here in Congress and I have gotten to know many of the fine Members of this body. But in my view, BILL GOODLING is a class act.

BILL GOODLING exemplifies what all Members of Congress ought to be. First, he came here with experiences in a multitude of fields. I think we are always served best by people who have succeeded in what I call the "real world" and then come to government and help us govern, because they have the wisdom and the knowledge from the fields they left.

He was in agriculture, Pennsylvania's leading industry. He was an educator, a top flight educator. BILL GOODLING is the kind of person we would like to have as a neighbor, as a business partner, as a personal friend. He not only is competent and qualified; he is a fine human being. He is an example we can hold up to our young people that this is how they ought to live their lives. Be successful in a field and then give back as he has given.

Mr. Speaker, I guess what has amazed me about the gentleman from Pennsylvania, and it is unfortunate he has to leave before we say these things, but he has been here 26 years. Today, in his final weeks, he still has the passion of his convictions. He still feels passionately about local education and the importance of keeping the decisions locally. He has been fighting tenaciously in his last weeks in Congress espousing things he has been espousing for a long time, but with no less gusto. Not many people do that.

I want the gentleman to know that I admire him. He is a person that I look up to. He is the kind of person that I believe exemplifies what we all ought to be, and we are going to miss him.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI).

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I would say first of all that I know that my colleague from Wisconsin and a long-time member of the committee, STEVE GUNDERSON, had wished that he could be here today as a Member of this body to participate in this occasion.

Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor and a privilege to learn about education at the knee of BILL GOODLING, a true expert who spent his life in the field. He will be sorely missed.

It is with immense pleasure and honor that I rise to express a few thoughts about my col-

league and good friend, BILL GOODLING. I would like to say at the outset that I know that my former colleague from Wisconsin, Steve Gunderson, would very much like to be here today to participate in this occasion. He is a great admirer of Chairman GOODLING.

The Education and the Workforce Committee, formerly the Education and Labor Committee, was blessed the day BILL was first elected to Congress. Drawing on his experiences as a coach, a high school principal, and a Superintendent of schools, BILL has always approached the issue of education with the interests of America's children at heart. I can remember many conversations we have had, especially in the days when we had adjoining offices in Rayburn, discussing ways to more effectively educate the children of his nation.

Given all the work we still have to do in that regard, I hope and trust that those conversations will continue, for BILL's experience, insight, and thorough understanding of these issues are a priceless resource. Both as a member of the majority and of the minority, BILL has maintained his loyalty to our children, often in the face of fervid opposition by many who put their own special interests ahead of the well being of America's kids. His career in Congress is a monument and a tribute to a man of honor, integrity, courage, and vision.

I know there are several other Members here who would like some time to share their comments for Mr. GOODLING, so I won't go into the details of BILL's accomplishments as a Member of Congress. I'm not sure I could do it even if I had all forty minutes to speak! But I would like to say that many, many programs—not just the Literacy Involves Families Together Act, which we appropriately renamed a few weeks ago as the William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Program—owe a debt of gratitude to Chairman GOODLING. These are programs near and dear to his heart, and they are a reflection of BILL's tireless efforts and passion for providing the children of this nation, all of them, with the best possible education.

It has been my pleasure and honor to have known Chairman GOODLING for 22 years, and he will be missed—as much as he misses his horses when he's here in Washington—when he retires at the end of this session.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON).

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, a couple of weeks ago, many of us traveled to southern Virginia to attend the funeral of a good friend and colleague, Herb Bateman, and many wonderful things were said about him at that time. I wish we had been able to have that kind of a meeting for Herb when he was with us.

I am really happy that we are able to stand today and say just a few good things about our good friend, BILL GOODLING.

When the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) was talking earlier about him starting meetings at 9:30, and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) remarked about him getting up early, being a farmer; when he