

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