

October 25, 2000

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE TOM
EWING ON HIS RETIREMENT
FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, it's sad to part ways with TOM. He's an old friend who I've known over a span of more than 20 years. He's someone I've worked with in representing the people of our state of Illinois, both in Congress and our state legislature. He's someone who helped me rally the troops when I was chief deputy whip, and he's someone who supported me for Speaker of the House. I have great respect for TOM.

Since he was elected in 1991, TOM has worked for the families in Illinois' 15th District. TOM, a farmer himself, stood up for Illinois farmers' interests as Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Risk Management and Specialty Crops and Research. He fought for the Republican principles he represents so that he could make American lives better—a balanced budget, lower taxes, fair treatment for small businesses, welfare reform and Social Security and Medicare reform.

TOM wanted to retire so he could spend more time with his wife, Connie, his six children and his grandchildren. I hope his future years with them are filled with much happiness. I wish him the best of luck and thank this honorable and decent man for everything he has done for both the people of Illinois and the men and women of this country. I know our friendship will continue even after he goes back home.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF NAEMT

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to highlight an important milestone for America's Emergency Medical Services systems and to voice my continued support for the nation's EMTs and Paramedics.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT). For 25 years NAEMT has represented the interests of America's 600,000 EMTs and Paramedics, while witnessing the evolving role of EMS in this country. No longer are EMS personnel simply "ambulance drivers," but instead they provide quality medical care for the sick and injured, including advanced life support with such interventions as intravenous cannulation, cardiac defibrillation, endotracheal intubation, and medication administration. But EMS personnel today do more than just clinical medicine. Whether it be a free blood pressure and blood sugar screening hosted by the local EMS agency in the rural town of Eveleth, Minnesota or the initiation of a defibrillator training program for community members in Omaha, Nebraska, EMTs and Paramedics across Amer-

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ica exhibit a special dedication to the people of their communities. I applaud America's EMS personnel for their 25 years of outstanding service.

The aging population and concerns about healthcare for the 21st century are both issues we are fervently debating in Congress right now. EMS, as part of the allied healthcare system, is not immune from the effects of these emerging issues. Instead, these issues are rapidly increasing the roles of EMS personnel. At the NAEMT conference "Outlook 2000" in Reno, Nevada on November 8–11, America's EMTs and Paramedics will boldly step forward and accept these new challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that today's EMTs and Paramedics will continue to proudly serve the people of this nation and will confront future challenges not with trepidation, but with the same confident altruism that led them to first develop America's EMS systems a quarter century ago.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, on October 24 I was in my district and was absent for rollcall votes No. 541, No. 542, and No. 543. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yea" on H. Res. 634 (rollcall vote No. 541); "yea" on H. Con. Res. 414 (rollcall vote No. 542); and "yea" on H.R. 4271 (rollcall vote No. 543).

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
MUSEUM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, as a co-sponsor of this legislation, I rise today in support of S. 1438, the National Law Enforcement Museum Act, which honors the men and women who serve our nation as law enforcement officers.

America's law enforcement officers are one of our most valuable resources. Almost one million individuals nationwide perform an incredibly important task as they put their lives in danger on a daily basis to protect and serve the American people. As a former police officer, and the father of a former police officer, I know the inherent risk involved in the profession and salute these men and women for their efforts.

This legislation will allow the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund to go forward with plans to build the most comprehensive law enforcement museum and research facility in the world. The museum will serve to educate and inform the public of the risks and duties that law enforcement officers face on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the National Law Enforce-

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ment Museum Act. America's law enforcement officers are highly deserving of the praise and recognition that the museum will bring them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, October 24, 2000, I was unavoidably detained by weather problems in the Midwest and missed rollcall vote #541–#543. Had my votes been recorded, they would have been in the following manner:

Rollcall Vote #541 (On agreement to H. Res. 634) "yea".

Rollcall Vote #542 (To suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res. 414) "yea".

Rollcall Vote #543 (To suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4271) "yea".

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
MUSEUM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 1438, the National Law Enforcement Memorial Museum Act. This important piece of legislation would give all Americans a place to honor and commemorate the members of our nation's law enforcement agencies and provide a museum for those who have made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, during our nation's history, nearly 15,000 federal, state, and local law enforcement officers have lost their lives in the line of duty. According to the most recent FBI statistics, almost 63,000 officers are assaulted each year, and this results in more than 21,000 injuries. I am appalled to report that on average, one police officer is killed somewhere in the United States every 54 hours.

Everyday some 740,000 law enforcement professionals are asked to put their lives on the line to protect the safety of others. We owe all of these officers a huge debt of gratitude. I believe that the time has come to honor all law enforcement officers and to pay particular honor to their fallen colleagues for their outstanding service and sacrifice made for our country.

Mr. Speaker, this important legislation will establish a comprehensive law enforcement museum and research repository. The museum will permit researchers, practitioners, and the general public to have access to this premiere source of information on issues related to law enforcement history and safety.

As my colleagues are aware, in 1984 we mandated the establishment of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. This memorial was dedicated in 1991 just a few blocks from this Capitol Building. The legislation we are considering today calls for the construction