

TRIBUTE TO HONORABLE  
CHARLES CANADY

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, as the 106th Congress draws to an end, this body will be saying good-bye to several outstanding public servants. Among these distinguished legislators is Congressman CHARLES CANADY.

Since 1993, CHARLES has represented the 12th Congressional District, which neighbors my district to the south. This has provided me the opportunity to work with him on issues that are vital to central Florida as well as to the Nation.

As Members know, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CANADY) pledged to his constituents that, if elected, he would step down after four terms. During this 8-year tenure, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CANADY) has accumulated an impressive record of accomplishments. This is not just my opinion. The National Journal states, "In a short time, CANADY has become one of the most productive and effective Members of the House."

That is how he will be remembered. He will be missed by the Florida delegation and others throughout this Chamber. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

CONGRESSMAN VENTO'S OUT-  
STANDING ENVIRONMENTAL  
LEGACY

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives, and particularly the Nation's environmental community, joined the family and constituents of Bruce Vento in mourning the loss of this dedicated and talented legislator earlier this month.

In his 24 years in Congress, Bruce served with great distinction and achievement on the House Committee on Resources. No other Member of this House could match his achievement on behalf of our parks and public lands and no one spoke with greater eloquence or worked with greater accomplishment to preserve these resources for future generations of Americans.

Because of his great contributions and the painfulness of his untimely death, it is especially discouraging to me to read the scorecard of the League of Conservation Voters for the 106th Congress. Although numerous Members have joined me in complaining about the League of Conservation Voters' practice of counting legitimately missed votes as "no" votes, LCV continues this unfair method of scoring. As a result, LCV rated Bruce Vento at

just 53 percent for this Congress and just 7 percent for this year. Although LCV notes Bruce's death, they failed to note that his absences were due to his terminal illness and treatments.

LCV's obstinate refusal to modify its rating system is very disappointing to friends in the environmental community. The ratings system is absurdly rigid and self-centered when dedicated environmentalists are marked down for illnesses or personal tragedies. LCV says it is looking for another way for the scoring system, but it will come too late to honor the memory and the achievements of Bruce Vento.

COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, Republicans have made a solid commitment to education. But the Clinton-Gore administration and the Democrats in Congress want the Federal Government to decide what local schools can and cannot do. This is really what separates the two parties on education policy. The focus of education should not be about quantity and process. It should focus on quality and results. This is what will help our children and grandchildren secure America's future.

Our children and grandchildren will benefit greatly from the work we have done and the decisions we have made. Paying off the debt means \$1,348 in savings for every man, woman and child. That is money that can be spent for education or even retirement savings. It also means \$5,200 in savings for every American family, which is enough money for annual tuition at a public university.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has ended the old spend-now-and-pay-later attitude that created deficits as far as the eye could see. I believe it is morally wrong to pass on our debt to our children and grandchildren. They should not have to inherit prior profligate spending. By committing to dedicate at least 90 percent of future surplus to reducing the national debt, we will secure America's future for our children and our grandchildren.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT IN THE  
MATTER OF REFUSALS TO COMPLY  
WITH SUBPOENAS ISSUED  
BY COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, from the Committee on Resources, submitted a privileged supplemental report (Rept. No. 106-801, Part II) in the matter of the Refusals to Comply with Subpoenas Issued by the Committee on Resources, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONCERNING VIOLENCE IN  
MIDDLE EAST

(Mr. FORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, on October 25, yesterday, the House of Representatives passed H.Con.Res. 426, a resolution concerning violence in the Middle East.

Like those who supported the resolution, I am profoundly saddened by the loss of life precipitated by the recent outbreak of violence in Gaza and the West Bank. My support for the State of Israel and Israeli people as my voting record has demonstrated during my brief tenure here in the Congress has been unwavering. However, I could not support the resolution in the form it was presented yesterday because in my view it unfairly and broadly assigned blame for the violence in the Middle East.

A lasting Middle East peace can only be achieved if all parties demonstrate courage in the negotiation process. Central to this is the immediate renunciation of all violence and an expression of willingness by both sides to return to the negotiating table. Chairman Arafat's words and actions demonstrate his unwillingness to participate. I strongly support President Clinton's efforts to bring both sides to the negotiating table to begin again the slow and often difficult work that is necessary to ensure a lasting and just peace.

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LAST 7  
YEARS

(Mr. EHLERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I have been in this House approximately 7 years now, and as we approach the end of this session, it is time for a retrospective.

When I arrived in this House, we had a deficit of \$300 billion. And, in addition to that, we spent every cent, every single penny of the money that came in for Social Security, and it was spent on behalf of general government projects rather than on behalf of the people who contributed it.

Today we have a surplus of over \$100 billion, plus we are not taking one cent of the Social Security money that is coming in. What a difference in 7 years! If you want to know what that difference means for the average taxpayer, it is more than \$2,200 for each and every taxpayer in this country.

What a change! What an accomplishment! I am very proud to have been part of the House during this transition, from a time of immense deficit spending, stealing Social Security