

October 28, 2000

the New York City officer involved in an orchestrated drug raid.

Our legislation is intended to reauthorize a highly successful program which provides a partnership between the federal government and state and local law enforcement agencies in order to make sure that every police and corrections officer who needs a bulletproof vest gets one. It is clear to us that every officer on the street should have a vest, and that the need to supply officers with vests is important enough to warrant direct federal assistance. Furthermore, the overwhelming positive response we have received from law enforcement agencies and officers to this program highlights the continued need for the program.

Mr. Speaker, at the heart of this effort is our desire to save the lives of police officers. When we make this commitment, we offer protection not just to the officers, but to every community in America. We prevent the suffering of families of fallen officers. We prevent the loss of leaders in our communities. Perhaps most importantly, we give those who protect us the ability to do their job better, more confidently, and with a knowledge that their entire nation is behind them every day, in even the most dangerous situations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up in support of our police and corrections officers, and vote for S. 2413.

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RETIREMENT OF HON. TILLIE  
FOWLER

SPEECH OF

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2000*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, for the past eight years, I have had the privilege of serving in the U.S. House of Representatives with the distinguished gentlelady from Jacksonville, Florida, Tillie Fowler. It has been my and my wife, Emilie's great pleasure to get to know Tillie and her husband Buck. They have become close friends of ours as we worked together to serve our constituents in Florida.

The residents of Florida's 4th Congressional District have been fortunate to be represented by a hard-working, dedicated Member of Congress. Tillie has served as the Vice-Chairman of the Republican Conference, making her the highest-ranking woman in the Congress and the only Floridian who is part of the leadership. While she has been involved in the leadership, she has not neglected the needs of her constituents.

Her service on the Armed Services and Transportation Committees has been exemplary. She worked very hard to ensure that Florida received its fair share of highway funding.

Tillie Fowler is a class-act and we need more individuals like her here. We will truly miss her. But we know that she will not stop serving the residents of Florida no matter what she does next.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RETIREMENT OF HON. TILLIE  
FOWLER

SPEECH OF

**HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2000*

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make my last address as an honored Member of this distinguished body. There is no doubt in my mind what I will miss the most about this job. It will not be the late nights—and it will not be the ever-changing schedule. I will miss my friends—and I have made so many.

This institution is filled with so many extraordinary people, who, in my time here, have done some extraordinary things.

I make it a point in every speech I give back home to talk about the people I serve with here in this great body. I want people to know that the portrayal they see of politicians in the press and on TV is far from accurate. While scandals and controversy may sell newspapers, they are certainly not the norm around here.

I never give a speech without talking about the dedication, the devotion and the selflessness with which nearly every Member of Congress serves this institution and his or her country.

I may not always agree with someone's politics or ideology, but I would never question the sincerity or the purpose with which they pursue their agendas. People serve here for the right reasons—I truly believe that.

Serving with all of you has been such an honor. And as I look back over the last eight years, I look with pride at what we were able to do in such a short time.

Together, we reformed Congress. We have made this institution more open, more accountable and more responsive to the people. When I first set foot on this House floor in 1993, Congress' approval rating was a dismal 17 percent. That number is much higher today.

Together, with the hard work of the American people, we turned around an economy saddled by high interest rates and high unemployment.

Together, we balanced the federal budget for the first time since I was a staffer on Capitol Hill back in the 1960's.

Together we ended welfare as we knew it, and created a new system that rewards work and responsibility.

If I have one wish as I leave this institution, it is that some progress can be made toward reducing the partisanship that has plagued us.

I have tried very hard over my eight years to focus on the task at hand and leave the partisanship on the Capitol steps. When you look back at some of our best accomplishments, you find that they were mostly gained with support from both sides of the aisle. That should be a lesson to future Congresses.

I was proud to serve on the planning committee for the two bi-partisan retreats, and I hope that those retreats will continue and their mission expand.

I was also proud to serve on Speaker Hastert's leadership team these past two years. When he was unexpectedly tapped for

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the speakership, I said then he was the right man for the right time. Working with him the last two years, I witnessed first hand how true that statement was.

Always the calm in the eye of the storm, the speaker's steady hand and sharp focus have resulted in an impressive list of accomplishments, despite our razor thin majority. Some in the body may not always share his priorities or his political philosophies, but I have never heard a cross word spoken about Speaker HASTERT as a person. In this era of personal attack and partisanship, that is a real testament to the Speaker, and it has been my privilege to serve on his team.

To my constituents, I want to say that representing you has been the greatest honor of my life. I have tried to be both an effective representative and an honest steward of the incredible trust you have placed in me.

I want to thank all my colleagues who have taken to the House floor the last few days to say such nice things about me. I am humbled by their words and touched by their sentiments. While I will retire from this institution, I am not retiring from life. If there is one thing I learned from my parents, it is that public service and service to your community is a lifetime obligation. There will be new opportunities and new challenges, and I look forward to those. But serving in this body, with all of you, will forever be one of the most cherished times of my life. God bless you, God bless this institution, and God bless America.

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INTRODUCTION OF H. CON. RES. 433  
REGARDING BELARUS

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 26, 2000*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to cosponsor House Concurrent Resolution 433, a resolution introduced on Monday by my colleague on the International Relations Committee, Mr. Gejdensen, concerning the recent parliamentary elections in Belarus.

The Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other European institutions, as well as the State Department, all concluded that these elections were not free, fair and transparent and that they failed to meet the international norms for democratic elections. Unfortunately, the Lukashenka regime did not meet the four conditions that the OSCE set back last spring—namely, a democratic election law, an end to human rights abuses, access by the opposition to the state media, and genuine powers be granted to the parliament. Instead, in the run-up to the elections, we witnessed the denial of registration to many opposition candidates; detentions and fines of individuals advocating a boycott of the elections; confiscation of 100,000 copies of an independent newspaper among other examples of harassment of the opposition; rampant governmental interference in the election process and extensive irregularities on election day itself. These elections represent a continuing pattern of violations of human rights and the erosion of democracy which has

haunted Belarus throughout the last six years of Alexander Lukashenka's rule.

The Helsinki Commission, which I chair, has monitored and chronicled developments in Belarus, holding hearings which have included Belarusian democratic opposition leaders and leaders of the 13th Supreme Soviet, the legitimate parliament which Lukashenka disbanded in 1996. In July, I led the US delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly meeting in Bucharest where the deteriorating situation in Belarus was high on our agenda. Importantly, this resolution includes language reaffirming Congress' recognition of the 13th Supreme Soviet as the sole democratically elected and constitutionally legitimate legislative body in Belarus, which is also important, especially as the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly continues to recognize that to seat the 13th Supreme Soviet as well. In the last few years, I have made numerous direct and indirect intercessions, including through various OSCE institutions, to draw attention to the deplorable situation in Belarus and to encourage the establishment of democracy in Belarus and I assure you that the Helsinki Commission will continue its efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this resolution, and am eager for the House to go on record in support of the restoration of democracy in Belarus. I am especially pleased that the resolution urges the Lukashenka regime to provide a full accounting of the disappearances of several prominent opposition members and urges the release of those imprisoned in Belarus for their political views. I look forward to working with my colleagues to keep the spotlight on Belarus and to encourage the Belarusian government to comply with its freely undertaken OSCE and other international commitments.

ROFEH INTERNATIONAL HONORS  
MR. ARNOLD ZALTAS AND DR.  
TATSUO HIROSE

### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it has been my distinct honor over the years to take note of the extraordinary valuable work done by Rofeh International, in conjunction with the New England Chassidic Center led by Grand Rabbi Levi Horowitz. Grand Rabbi Horowitz, the Bostoner Rebbe as he is known, is a very distinguished scholar in the field of medical ethics, in addition to his eminence as a scholar of Judaism. Rofeh facilitates making the superb medical treatment that is available in Boston to people from all over the world, and if it were not for Rofeh, a large number of people who have benefitted from this medical treatment would not have been able to do so.

As part of their effort, Rofeh and the New England Chassidic Center have an annual dinner, at which they honor people who have been particularly distinguished in their service to this wonderful cause. This year Rofeh will honor two men. Arnold Zaltas and Tatsuo Hirose.

Dr. Hirose was born in Japan, and graduated from Kanazawa University School of

Medicine there in 1961. His initial visit to the United States was 1965 when he was awarded with the Fulbright Fellowship, which allowed him to study clinical electrophysiology in vision at the Department of Ophthalmology, Cornell Medical School in New York. This happened when he was in the third year in the Postdoctoral School in Medicine in Kanazawa University. After spending three years in Cornell, he went back to Kanazawa and finished Postdoctoral School in Ophthalmology at Kanazawa University where he was awarded Doctor of Medical Science in 1969. He came to the Schepens Retina Associates, Retina Foundation (now called Schepens Eye Research Institute) and Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary for training and studying the surgery of the retina in the spring of 1969. He became a member of Schepens Retina Associates in 1973 at the same time he continued conducting research in studying functions of the retina at the Schepens Eye Institute, Harvard Medical School. He has been specializing in difficult complex retinal detachments, such as surgical failures in adults and children. He is particularly interested in infant and children's retinal detachment particularly in premature born babies. He published more than 140 papers in scientific medical journals, edited two books, including the most recent one: Schepens Retinal detachment and allied diseases. He contributed 23 book chapters. He received a Research to Prevent Blindness award, honor award of American Academy of Ophthalmology, Senior Honor Award of American Academy of Ophthalmology, The Paul Kayser International Award of Merit in Retina Research. He has been selected in the Best Doctors in America 1996-1997, and Boston's Best Doctors in Boston Magazine, 1999. At present, he is a Clinical professor in ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School, senior Clinical Scientist at Schepens Eye Research Institutes, and Surgeon at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary.

Arnold I. Zaltas is a partner in the Natick firm of Zaltas, Medoff & Raider, where he concentrates in estate planning, real estate and banking law.

He is a Trustee and General Counsel to the Middlesex Savings Bank, and serves as a Director of the Natick Visiting Nurse Association. He has served as Trustee of the Leonard Morse Hospital. Mr. Zaltas is a graduate of the Boston University School of Law, is past President of the Boston University Law School Alumni Association, and a recipient of the School of Law's Silver Shingle Award in recognition of outstanding service to the School. He is a Trustee of Temple Israel of Natick, where he was the recipient of the Maurice Geshelin Humanitarian Award.

Arnold is a long-time resident of Natick, where he resides with his wife, Brenda. They have three children: A. David Zaltas, an attorney, Mandi M. Kunen, an ophthalmologist, Marjorie Rubin, an attorney, and three grandchildren.

Arnold Zaltas and Tatsuo Hirose deserve hearty congratulations for the excellent work they do. Being recognized by Project Rofeh is a great honor, and I am pleased to take this opportunity to salute the work of this important organization of these two men.

### A COWBOY'S LAST RIDE

### HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, family and friends recently said their final goodbyes to 101-year-old Paul T. Veluzat, one of the last of the American cowboys. He leaves behind a great legacy.

Paul's travels as a cowboy and a shrewd businessman began on Dec. 6, 1898, when he was born in Summershade, KY. At age 17 he went to work in a shipyard, then made his way to Texas where he joined the Texas Rangers. Paul was one of the first people to board the German submarine that sank the Lusitania, an event that precipitated the United States' entry into World War I.

Paul's love of horses led him back and forth to Mexico, where he rode with the revolutionary, Francisco "Pancho" Villa. He eventually came to California where he worked as a bodyguard to industrialist J. Paul Getty and evangelist Aimee Semple MacPherson. He became a devout Christian—something his family and friends said was one of the most important aspects of his life. He purchased real estate throughout the Los Angeles area, including a ranch he called the "Diamond B" in Saugus where he ran cattle, and raised racehorses.

Paul's passion for horses was as strong as his passion for filmmaking. The Veluzat family owns Melody Ranch, home to over 750 "B" western movies as well as other notable films and television shows such as the beloved Gunsmoke. "Last Man Standing" starring Bruce Willis was recently filmed there.

Paul was very successful. He and his first wife, Opal, were simple and down to earth, they were astute in business and had unquestionable integrity. Paul's word was his bond. Ninety percent of his business was conducted by a handshake or over the phone. Paul's true success was measured by his deep spirituality and the love and respect he gained from his family and his many friends. He will be remembered as a generous man who was liked by all.

Paul Veluzat is survived by Rosa, his wife of 14 years, his sons, Rene, Andre and Renaud, four grandchildren, Shantel Hudson, Daniel, Paul and Marcel Veluzat, three great-grandchildren and many, many friends.

### STATEMENT OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE SAYAVONG

### HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend to my colleagues the following letter and testimony sent by His Royal Highness Prince Sayavong to Philip Smith, of the Center for Public Policy Analysis, for the U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos that was held on September 7, 2000. My foreign policy advisor, Mr. Al Santoli, was one of the keynote