

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in paying tribute to Joseph Acosta, faithful servant of God, honorable citizen of the United States, proud and devoted husband and father. From the hallowed halls of Congress we say to you Joe, "Well Done! God bless you and your family. And God bless America!"

COMMENDING THE BROOKLYN CENTER, MINNESOTA LIONS CLUB FOR 46 YEARS OF SUPPORTING COMMUNITY NEEDS

**HON. JIM RAMSTAD**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, October 28, 2000*

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I proudly salute a remarkable organization in my district which has been working hard for nearly half a century to raise badly needed resources to fund countless community efforts and held people in need.

For 46 years, the Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, Lions Club has always been there to help with a wide variety of critical needs. There are no words to adequately convey my admiration and thanks for all that the Brooklyn Center Lions have accomplished through their inspiring public service.

Mr. Speaker, it is organizations like the Brooklyn Center Lions Club which keep our country strong. As a fellow Lion, I want to salute the Brooklyn Center Lions who quietly volunteer their time, energy and talent to meet pressing demands in their community. I also applaud the Brooklyn Center Rotary Club for honoring the Brooklyn Center Lions last week.

Mr. Speaker, the great city of Brooklyn Center is greater because of the many important contributions of the Brooklyn Center Lions over the last four decades. The Lions live by the motto "We Serve," and the Brooklyn Center Lions personify community service.

In 1999 alone, Mr. Speaker, the Brooklyn Center Lions donated \$30,203 to the city to provide extra special help wherever and whenever needed. Over the years, the size and scope of the Lions' generosity paints a vivid picture of public service. Through the years, the Lions have donated \$160,000 to the city, \$125,000 to the schools and \$110,000 to youth sports.

Since I was first elected to Congress, I have made expanded opportunities for people with disabilities one of my highest priorities. The Lions of Brooklyn Center share that passion and know that our nation is underutilizing a very talented and hard-working population by not offering more people with disabilities the opportunity to contribute. That's why the Brooklyn Center Lions built ramps for people in wheelchairs so they can lead more independent, fulfilling lives.

Mr. Speaker, the Lions Club in Brooklyn Center each and every year comes through with funds to get civic projects off the ground. The Lions Club lifts spirits by supporting the hometown Earle Brown Days, concerts, special festivals and the Park and Recreation Department's annual Halloween party.

The Brooklyn Center Lions have donated money for a training tower for the Brooklyn

Center Fire Department, bikes for the Brooklyn Center Police Department's bike patrol, fitness equipment for police officers and the picnic shelter in Lions Park.

Mr. Speaker, the needs of children are always foremost in the minds of Brooklyn Center Lions Club members. Memories will last a lifetime for all the elementary school students who were able to travel to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum because of the generosity of the Lions. The club gives to the Brooklyn Center Charitable Foundation to help children get coats, gloves and school supplies.

Clubs like the Lions of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, are the lifeblood of our communities. That is literally the case with the Lions of Brooklyn Center when they support events like the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life." The Brooklyn Center Lions for almost half a century have rung bells with the Salvation Army, gathered food for the hungry and helped clean up the city parks.

Mr. Speaker, the Brooklyn Center Lions truly represent the best in public service, and I am very proud to represent them in Congress. The Brooklyn Center Lions are a model for the nation and a great community resource.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting the tremendous public service performed by the Brooklyn Center Lions for 46 years! Thank you, Lions, for all you have done and will continue to do in the years ahead.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4942, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 26, 2000*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of section 1012 of the Launching Our Communities Access to Local Television Act of 2000, title X of the Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and related agencies appropriations conference report. Section 1012 provides for independent testing of terrestrial technologies in the 12 GHz band. My support for this section is conditioned on the understanding that this provision will not add any delay to any current FCC proceeding.

The Satellite Home Viewer's Improvement Act ("SHVIA"), which we passed a year ago, required the FCC to act on applications to provide local television service in unserved and underserved areas. We gave the FCC one year to make its determinations regarding these applications, which at that time had already been pending before the FCC for nearly one year. I am highly aware of the need for local television and broadband services that can be provided by new terrestrial wireless technologies. The deadline for FCC action under SHVIA is fast approaching and I expect the FCC to act on the applications by November 29, 2000 as required. The residents of my rural district have waited too long for service that matches that which is available in our nation's more populated area.

VICTIMS OF TERRORISM CLAIMS

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, October 28, 2000*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, following enactment of the Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act, to provide payment by the U.S. Government to persons holding final judgments pursuant to the 1996 Anti-Terrorism Act against the governments of Iran and Cuba for complicity in terrorist acts, many questions have been raised about the impact of this legislation on other pending claims, especially those of the families of the victims of Pan Am Flight 103 against Libya.

In this regard, I wish to reaffirm the statement contained in the Conference Report to the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Act of 2000, which provides that "The Committee intends that this legislation will similarly help other pending and future Antiterrorism Act plaintiffs as and when U.S. courts issue judgments against the foreign state sponsors of specific terrorist acts. The Committee shares the particular interest of the sponsors of this legislation in ensuring that the families of the victims of Pan Am Flight 103 should be able to collect damages promptly if they can demonstrate to the satisfaction of a U.S. court that Libya is indeed responsible for that heinous bombing."

The families of the victims of Pam Am Flight 103 were instrumental in their pursuit of justice in supporting enactment of the 1996 Anti-Terrorism Act. Because of this law, U.S. courts are now empowered to take jurisdiction over claims against foreign governments accused of state sponsored terrorism. We continuously have these families in our minds, as well as their loved ones who died in what President Clinton justly called a "direct attack on America".

It was the intention of the 106th Congress, in enacting The Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act that these same enforcement of judgment opportunities should apply equally to any final judgments that may be obtained by the families of the victims of Pan Am Flight 103 in pending or future litigation, if they so desire to pursue that civil course of action, along with our nation's own efforts to bring all those responsible to justice.

IN HONOR OF CARL REINER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, October 28, 2000*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the comedic legend, Carl Reiner, and in recognition of his remarkable achievement of being awarded the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor. A writer, performer, humorist, producer and director, his range of talent and contributions to American television are without bounds.

Reiner, now 78, has had a lengthy and multi-faceted career. In 1950 Reiner joined Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows," the precursor to sketch-comedies such as the "Carol

Burnette Show" and "Saturday Night Live." There he honed his comedic talents with other giants of laughter, like the legendary Mel Brooks, and began the writing for which he gained his unique reputation. After the show left the air in 1954, Reiner went to work writing TV pilots. Seven years later, CBS bought the "Dick Van Dyke Show," one of televisions first and best sitcoms. Reiner went on to win 11 Emmy awards for the show.

Throughout the sixties, Reiner wrote semi-autobiographical comic novels, as well as short stories; his current collection is titled, "How Paul Robeson Saved My Life." He has produced comic television shows and movies, and most recently, he created the hysterical comedy album, "The Two-Thousand-Year-Old Man," with Mel Brooks.

Despite Carl Reiner's unmistakable gift for comedy, he remains a man of family, and a "normal" one, at that. He is married to Estelle Reiner, and is a loving father of three. Carl Reiner's universal appeal can, at least in part, be attributed to his straight sense of humor, unmarred by the vulgar and raunchy comedy too often presented just to make a buck. Of course, Reiner has said, "If it's funnier than it is dirty, then let's have it."

Let us recognize and honor the man who has shaped so much of our shared American culture since the early fifties. A television and comic pioneer, Carl Reiner has become a legend in his own time. I congratulate his distinct genius and commend him on receiving the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4942,  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. DARLENE HOOLEY**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 26, 2000*

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, today I will vote against the fiscal year 2001 Commerce, Justice, State appropriations bill because language has been included in the conference report which, instead of solving the problem of the sale of Social Security numbers over the Internet, actually shields those who sell Social Security numbers. As the original sponsor of H.R. 4311, The Identity Theft Prevention Act, I well know the opportunity that the sale of Social Security Numbers gives to identity theft criminals.

The move to outlaw the sale of Social Security Numbers gained momentum when a New Hampshire woman, Amy Boyer, was stalked and killed by a man who purchased her Social Security number over the Internet. But, instead of incorporating language into the conference report that would outlaw the purchase or sale of Social Security Numbers, the leadership has done just the opposite.

In the provision that I voted against today, for the first time ever in law, banks, hospitals, and credit bureaus are explicitly allowed to sell our Social Security numbers.

The bill does nothing to restrict the purchase of Social Security numbers or restrict the use of it by people who obtain it over the

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Internet. Members of Amy Boyer's family are angry at what has happened to their original proposal, and have asked that Amy's name not be associated with it.

The proposal is opposed by numerous consumer, civil liberties and privacy organizations, including Consumer Action, the Consumer Federation of America, the Consumers Union, the ACLU, Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, the Electronic Privacy Information Center, the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, and the U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

For this reason, I was unable to support the 2001 Commerce, Justice, and State Appropriations bill.

CURRENT SHORTAGE OF  
INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS

**HON. GARY A. CONDIT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, October 28, 2000*

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise because of the current shortage of influenza vaccinations available to the general public for the upcoming flu season. I am very concerned about not only the availability of vaccinations, but about possible price manipulations regarding their availability.

Health care officials state that vaccinations are most effective, if received in early October, yet because of shortages many people must now wait until the end of November. I am extremely concerned for our nation's at-risk populations, in particular the elderly and chronically ill who rely on these immunizations. These individuals will be receiving their flu shots almost two months later than the recommended time frame. This is unacceptable.

While most states have a limited supply of vaccines for state and local health care agencies, some private health care providers—assuming they are capable of paying a premium price—seem to be experiencing no trouble receiving supplies. This has been raising questions among my constituents, many of whom rely on discounted flu shots offered by public health providers.

I have requested that Federal Trade Commission Chairman Robert Pitofsky investigate cases where companies may be selling to the highest bidder. One such example is the contrast between California and Maine. California contracted in February with a company called General Injectable Vaccines for \$17.99 per vial—and has received only one-third of their shipment. Maine contracted in June and July with the same company at \$39.00 per vial and received both shipments within two months.

In addition I have called on Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, to provide answers as to when this vaccine shortage was first realized by the government, why we were not better prepared, and what steps are being taken to ensure this shortage is never repeated.

We must do all we can to ensure on time delivery of vaccines for all in need, not just the privileged few. We cannot allow the availability and distribution problems we are experiencing this year to be repeated on an annual basis. Congress should take an active role in ensur-

*October 28, 2000*

ing timely and affordable delivery of these vital vaccinations. The health and well being of our country depends on it.

TRIBUTE TO DON HARE, MICHIGAN  
DIRECTOR FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT,  
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
RETIREMENT

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, October 28, 2000*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to both a public program and a state administrator of that program, a man who has put a warm, human face on a grant process that has been of vast importance to my northern Michigan congressional district.

Donald Hare, Michigan Director for Rural Development, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was appointed to his post by President Clinton in 1993. Working out of Lansing, Don could well have focused his attention on Detroit and the other major metropolitan areas of the state. He understood from the outset, however, that the first word of the name of his agency, "rural," meant that his focus should be on the many, many small communities that dot both the upper and lower peninsulas of Michigan.

Don Hare will be retiring at year's end. After almost a decade of working so closely with this dedicated public servant, I wanted to take a few minutes to tell you and our House colleagues about his work on behalf of the people of Michigan.

Let me give you a picture of my district, Mr. Speaker. Sprawling over roughly 24,000 square miles, it has many cities, towns and villages that organized and built their community infrastructure more than 100 years ago. Many of these communities built and still use water systems utilizing wooden piping! After 100 years, they must be re-built. These communities need financial assistance to renew these basic services, which maintain a community's quality of life and enable it to flourish and grow.

Prior to his Rural Development appointment, Don had served 18 years as chief of staff to Congressman Bob Traxler. He brought to the Rural Development job a clear understanding of the role of government in assisting people in basic yet profound ways. There is little glamour in providing grants to build a new sewer system, yet there is little future for a community that is unable to meet current standards in providing this service. Don understood this and has been of the greatest service to Michigan residents in meeting such challenges.

Don has always gone the extra mile to assist my constituents. In a figurative sense, he has always made himself available to me, my staff and community leaders to answer questions and resolve problems on grant issues. In a very literal sense, however, Don has often traveled many hours to come up to my northern Michigan district to take part in closing ceremonies and to make clear to grant recipients that the agency he has represented was more than a faceless bureaucracy.