

this conflict while, unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the Palestinian side. As retired Gen. Wesley K. Clark wrote recently: "for the Palestinians, every casualty, even their own, can be a strategic gain." As long as the Palestinian leadership acts on the assumption that there is a net political advantage in bloodshed, surely they, and those in the Arab world who encourage this violent strategy, should be held accountable for the appalling and unnecessary loss of life over the past four weeks.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, October 29, 2000 I was unavoidably detained from presence in the House. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall 574, Approval of the Journal—Yes.

Rollcall 575, One Day Continuing Resolution—Yes.

Rollcall 576, Pallone Motion to Instruct Labor-HHS Appropriations Conferees—Yes.

HONORING THE INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I commend the Inland Empire Utilities Agency of California, as they celebrate 50 years of excellence in water resources and quality management.

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency plays an integral part in distributing water, providing wastewater collection, and other utility services for nearly 700,000 people that reside within a 242-square-mile area of Western San Bernardino County. They have eight agency facilities within their jurisdiction that are designed to meet the specific needs of their regional community. Additionally, they have a five member Board of Directors that represents each division.

One of the critical aspects to the success of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency has been their ability to keep the lines of communication open. They have done an outstanding job working closely with local, State, and Federal legislators to ensure that California's water needs are being met.

Inland Empire Utilities Agency, a quality company that has taken a pro-active role in addressing water issues, is poised to meet the demands of the future. I ask that this 106th congress join me in congratulating the Inland Empire Utilities Agency as they celebrate 50 years of excellence in water resources and quality management.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRANSPORTATION RECALL ENHANCEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY AND DOCUMENTATION ACT

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, the House of Representatives passed by voice vote the Transportation Recall Enhancement, Accountability and Documentation Act.

The quick passage of this bill was a direct result of the public's concern over the safety of automobile tires. This was a good and proper beginning. However, I am hopeful that next year, in the new session of Congress, we can take a more comprehensive look at all automobile safety issues. In particular, Congress should closely examine the availability of information necessary to repair vehicles.

Oftentimes, consumers and repair shops do not have access to adequate information on how to properly repair and maintain vehicles. When information concerning the proper repairs and appropriate replacement parts for automobiles is withheld or tightly controlled, motorists are put in jeopardy. This situation can lead to unsafe vehicles on the road and must be addressed.

In the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments, Congress required new vehicles include an On-Board Diagnostic System to monitor vehicle emissions. At that time, Congress also mandated that the information necessary to make emission repairs be made available to all those who repair the vehicles, including the after market.

Since this time, diagnostics have evolved to monitor most car systems such as brakes and air bags. Yet the information required to make repairs on these systems is not made available to the car owner or the local repair shop. It is time for Congress to carefully consider the benefits of extending the information sharing requirements to cover all the systems in an automobile.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 576 on October 29, 2000, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following Recorded Votes due to the death of my father. I wish the RECORD to reflect how I would have voted on the following had I been present:

October 30, 2000

Rollcall No.	Bill No.	I would have voted—
563	H.J.Res. 117: Passage of Continuing Appropriation for FY2000.	AYE
564	S. 2943: Passage of International Malaria Control Act.	AYE
565	H.R. 2498: Passage of Cardiac Arrest Survival Act.	AYE
566	H.Res. 655: Passage of consideration and Senate amendment to H.R. 1550 (authorization appropriations for the United States Fire Administration).	AYE
567	S. 2712: Passage of Reports Consolidation Act.	AYE
568	H.R. 5309: Passage of Ronald W. Reagan Post Office Bldg.	AYE
569	S. 3194: Passage of Robert Walker Post Office Bldg.	AYE
571	H.J.Res. 118: Passage of Continuing Appropriation for FY2000.	AYE
572	H.R. 4577: Passage of Motion to Instruct Conferees regarding LIHEAP funding on Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations, FY2001.	AYE
573	H.R. 4577: Passage of Motion to Instruct Conferees regarding disagreeing to Senate Amendment that deny President's request for dedicated resources to reduce class sizes on Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations, FY2001.	NO
575	H.J.Res. 119: Passage of Continuing Appropriations for FY2000.	AYE
576	H.R. 4577: Passage of Mr. Pallone's Motion to Instruct Conferees on Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations, FY2001.	NO
578	H.J.Res. 120: Passage of Continuing Appropriation for FY2000.	AYE
579	Mr. Linder's motion regarding House Meeting Hour for Tuesday, October 31, 2000.	AYE

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE APPROPRIATIONS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, when we passed the H-1B legislation recently, it was my deep regret that Congress missed an opportunity to grant long-awaited parity to certain groups of immigrants in our country. Today I rise to speak against the measure currently before us because we're heading for another missed opportunity.

Significant portions of our Nation's population have been living, working, and raising families in the United States for many years. But they've been living in legal limbo, fearing deportation, because they were wrongly denied legal status to which they were entitled and which they qualified for in the 1980's.

Another group of immigrants has also been treated unfairly. In 1996 and 1997 Congress gave Nicaraguans and Cubans the opportunity to become permanent residents, but thousands of refugees from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti were left with only temporary residency status. This group deserves the same opportunity to obtain American citizenship.

The remedy for these problems, the Latino Fairness and Immigration Act, has been kept out of the Commerce, Justice and State appropriations bill. The Act is based on our country's basic tenet that people in similar situations should be treated equitably. It would keep immigrant families united through restoration of Section 245(i) of the INS Code. It would reward them for their hard work and recognize that they've paid their taxes and made other contributions to this country. It would also establish legal parity for all refugees who fled political turmoil in the 1990s.

It is important to state that because of past congressional action and bureaucratic bungling, some who were eligible for a legalization program enacted in 1986 are now U.S. citizens, while others are facing deportation. If we pass the Latino Immigration and Fairness Act, we'd be rewarding people who have played by the rules, telling them that the U.S. Government is willing to correct its mistakes of the past, keep their families united and exercise fairness.

What we're simply asking for is that a correction be made to an acknowledged wrong. Congress has taken this sort of action numerous times in the past when it has acted to legalize the residency of those who have been in America for many years.

This fair remedy is long overdue. What has been brought to the floor is an incomplete, inadequate measure that rewards some and denies others. Its inadequacy and unfairness falls short of what we stand for as a nation and what in the name of fairness should be done.

I ask my colleagues to reject the C-J-S appropriations bill for these reasons and instead support the Latino Fairness and Immigration Act.

A STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF MY COLLEAGUE, SIDNEY RICHARD YATES

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, when I was first elected to Congress in 1991, I became acquainted with my colleague, Sid Yates, who represented the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. Mr. Yates had first been elected to Congress in 1949 and was passed the four decade mark in service to the U.S. Congress when I met him.

While Congressman Yates and I served in different parties, we all served the state of Illinois and worked together on projects of mutual interest to our state and our nation. Congressman Yates had one of the most distinguished careers of any member ever to serve in the House of Representatives. He was a man whose reputation for honesty and integrity was untarnished after years of public service. He was a man who understood and loved the system that is the U.S. House of Representatives.

After Sidney Yates retired in 1999, I had the opportunity to visit with him about how he liked his new status. While I know that he enjoyed his retirement he missed very greatly the institution in which he had spent so many years of his productive life.

It is with regret that I acknowledge the passing of Sidney Yates so soon after his retirement. Yet, he was a man whose life was very full, who had so many good and productive years in which he dedicated himself to his state and nation. For his service, for his life, for the standards he set, he will long be remembered and always admired.

FTS 2001 PROGRAM

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the U.S. Government Federal Telecommunications Services contracts, called FTS 2000/2001. As a member of the Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Management, Information and Technology and with my continued interest in information technology issues, I believe it is important that we do all we can to ensure that a customer—as large and important as the U.S. Government—is not short-changed in the midst of the digital age.

Since the passage of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, telecommunications and high-tech companies have experienced colossal incentives to offer more advanced services and lower prices for consumers. This industry continues to have the opportunity to form strategic unions with its government customers to place a new emphasis on the latest technological innovations and showcase offerings of voice, data and video services throughout the United States and the world.

Even though we are making progress since passage of the 1966 Act, I remain concerned about the recent articles I've read stating that winning FTS vendors and the Federal government have run behind schedule in conversion of the contracts from FTS 2000 to 2001. This has impacted the competition built into the FTS 2001 contract. I find it troublesome to learn that this has resulted in a limited competitive opportunity for young, cutting-edge companies. As a result, this marketplace has experienced little in the way of introduction of new products and services to the government market.

I believe that it is important that we exercise our Congressional oversight authority and we quickly review the fair process that was initially established for federal agencies under the FTS 2000/2001 programs in order to restore competition within the government sector.

AMERICA WILL MISS CONGRESSMAN SIDNEY YATES

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn of the passing of Illinois Congressman Sidney Yates. I appreciate this opportunity to join his colleagues in honoring his memory and his legacy of service.

Congressman Sidney Yates served the people of Illinois and the American people with distinction. He actively and assertively championed the cause of cultural development, as one of the Congress' leading advocates of the National Endowment for the Arts. He reminded us that continued public sponsorship of artistic expression is essential to nourish America's creative spirit, and the Chicago Tribune called him the "greatest friend" of the arts. As an ac-

tive member of the Appropriations Committee and as Chairman and Ranking Member of its Interior Subcommittee, Sidney Yates also championed the cause of America's outdoors. Due in large part to his devoted stewardship, the National Park System grew as visitorship increased from 29 million in 1948 to almost 280 million in 1998.

This natural leadership should have come as no surprise. Sidney Yates was clearly an exemplary American. He excelled at the University of Chicago. There, he developed both the keen intellect that served him and his constituents so well in Congress and a real devotion to the outdoors, as a star basketball center and an exceptional amateur golfer. When the shadow of the Second World War brought darkness to our shores, Sidney Yates served in the United States Navy, earning the rank of Lieutenant. The young veteran again answered the call of duty in 1948, winning a seat in Congress that he eventually held for almost a half-century. Over the years, his steadfast dedication to the interests of his constituents won the support of the political machine that dominated Chicago politics during his first few terms, as well as the backing of Chicago's reform advocates. Sidney Yates retired last year as the longest-serving member in the history of the United States Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I will recall Sidney Yates with fondness. In honoring his memory, I honor the example of a life given in selfless service to our nation, and I can say with confidence that America will miss Congressman Sidney Yates.

HONORING MARILYN CULPEPPER

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Marilyn Culpepper for her dedication to the health and well being of Monroe County, Alabama, citizens.

Marilyn Culpepper was appointed to the Monroe County Hospital Board in July 1996 and elected its chairman by unanimous vote of the board a few months later. She served as chairman from 1997 to 2000. Mrs. Culpepper has since moved to Mobile, and I wish her well as she takes on new challenges.

A native of Grove Hill, Alabama, Mrs. Culpepper is a 1980 graduate of the University of West Alabama (formerly Livingston University) and was the recipient of that school's Alumni of the Year Award in 1996.

Over the years, she has had several successful careers and civic achievements. In 1986, at age 27, she was elected to the Sumter County Board of Education. She was elected a second time in 1988 and served with distinction until moving to Monroe County in 1991.

In Monroe County, Marilyn Culpepper served first as associate editor, then managing editor of the Award-winning weekly newspaper, The Monroe Journal. She also distinguished herself through community service in several capacities. To name a few, she was president and/or board member of the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce, the