

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