

was present at a bankruptcy trial in my community's effort to keep St. Michael Hospital and other Cleveland area hospitals from closing.

If I had been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 80, "no" on rollcall 81, 82, "aye" on rollcall 83, 84 and "no" on rollcall 85.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, due to an illness, I was unable to be present for House consideration of the following bills. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Roll Call Vote #76—H.R. 2412, a bill designating the E. Ross Adair Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse—I would have voted Yea.

Roll Call Vote #77—H. Con. Res. 292, a resolution congratulating the people of Taiwan for the successful conclusion of presidential elections on March 18, 2000 and reaffirming United States policy toward Taiwan and the People's Republic of China—I would have voted Yea.

Roll Call Vote #78—H. Con. Res. 269, a resolution commending the Library of Congress and its staff for 200 years of outstanding service to the Congress and the Nation—I would have voted Yea.

Roll Call Vote #79—H.R. 5, the Senior Citizen's Freedom to Work Act—as I voted the previous time the House considered it, I would have voted Yea.

Roll Call Vote #80—Approving the Day's Journal—I would have voted Yea.

Roll Call Vote #81—H. Res. 450, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3908; making emergency supplemental appropriations for Fiscal Year 2000—I would have voted Yea.

Roll Call Vote #82—an amendment to H.R. 3908 to cut \$1.631 billion from several programs in the bill and to strike all references to emergency designations, making the bill subject to spending caps—I would have voted Yea.

Roll Call Vote #83—an amendment to H.R. 3908 to appropriate \$4 billion in FY 2000 funds to reduce publicly-held debt—I would have voted Yea.

Roll Call Vote #84—an amendment to H.R. 3908 to cut \$552 million in Title I of the bill set aside for illegal drug interdiction and counter-drug programs—I would have voted Yea.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to be present for the vote on final passage of H.R. 3908. Had I been present I would have, albeit reluctantly, voted in favor of the bill. While I wholeheartedly endorse the provisions of Title III, I

did have concerns about much of the new spending provided elsewhere in this legislation. Much of what is provided for in this bill could have been addressed through the normal appropriations process.

Title III, however, addresses the true emergency needs of many in this country, and in North Carolina particularly. Thousands of people in my home state are still struggling to overcome the impact of last fall's hurricanes. The assistance provided in this emergency appropriations bill will be critical in helping my fellow North Carolinians return to at least a semblance of the lives they led before last September's devastating floods. I am grateful to the Appropriations Committee for providing this much-needed assistance, and appreciate their hard work in bringing this legislation to the floor.

#### A TRIBUTE TO DR. MANDELL I. GANCHROW

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a friend of mine, Dr. Mandell I. Ganchrow, who will receive the Kesser Shem Tov Award from the Orthodox Union on May 21st.

After retiring from his successful medical practice, Dr. Ganchrow has devoted himself to serving the Orthodox Union and to enhance its public image. Mandell I. Ganchrow was elected as International President of the Orthodox Union and has served in that position for the past six years. During his term, he has created the National Conference of Synagogue Youth, which is designed to teach heritage to young American Jews. He has also improved the visibility of the Institute for Public Affairs, which incorporates programs to assist those interested in government careers or in community service.

The Orthodox Union was founded in New York State in 1898 to provide a strong base for Orthodox Jews and to stop the spread of assimilation during the turn of the century. Today it is the voice of 1,000 Synagogues and provides a number of outreach and service programs.

I first met Dr. Ganchrow during my first campaign for Congress in 1972. He raised the public's awareness in that campaign by forming the Hudson Valley Political Action Committee. He has since become a trusted and valued advisor on a significant number of issues. Dr. Ganchrow has served his country as a Viet Nam veteran. Because he is a veteran, he has become especially sensitive of the need of peace and security in the Middle East. Moreover, he was recognized by the Rockland Journal News as one of the ten most influential Rockland County Residents of the twentieth century.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join in congratulating Dr. Mandell Ganchrow on receiving the Kesser Shem Tov Award from the Orthodox Union and I am confident he will continue to be a strong voice for American Jewry.

#### HONORING THE OKAWVILLE ROCKETS GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, today I commend the Okawville Rockets Girls' basketball team who won the Class A state title. The Rockets were the number one ranked team this year. They finished the year with a 33-1 record and a 17-game winning streak.

The Rockets, who won their first state championship in 1994, became the first Southern Illinois Team to win a state title since Carlyle did it in 1997. Okawville is the sixth Class A team to win at least two state titles, joining Carlyle, Nokomis, Teutopolis, Carthage and Quincy Notre Dame.

In honor of a near-perfect season, I want to congratulate them and their head coach, Kathy Lanter on a job well done. We are all very proud of you.

The Lady Rockets are:

Head Coach—Kathy Lanter.

Assistant Coaches—Carrie Stallings and Vicki Loquasto.

Managers—Rachel Shubert, Shana Stricker and Erica Bergmann.

Players—Jamie Schrader, Kelsey Klingenberg, Kristen Lehde, Natalie Shubert, Kelly Hasheider, Joan Miller, Erica Geppert, Cheryl Borrenpohl, Jenny Heckert, Megan Brockmeier, Erica Barkau, Justine Krueger, Lauren Borrenpohl, and Katie Hasheider.

#### JOSEPH PATRICK MCKEOWN— PUBLIC SERVANT

### HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow Mr. Joseph P. McKeown of Beltsville, MD will retire after spending thirty years, well over half his life, in the role of public servant. Son of Joseph and Claire McKeown of Toms River, NJ, he served in the United States Navy from 1967-1971. A good deal of his Navy service was aboard ship in various locales throughout the world. After the conclusion of his service time and then his graduation from Stonehill College, Joe began a 26-year career with the United States Postal Service.

For the last two decades, Mr. McKeown has served as a Postal Inspector. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service very seldom gets the credit they deserve for the exceptional law enforcement duties they perform. Postal Inspectors have a well-deserved reputation for tough, relentless, professional investigation resulting in a 98 percent conviction rate. Seldom is there a major crime solved in this nation, at any governmental level, without the involvement of the Inspection Service at some level. Yet, you usually never see them "out front" at the successful conclusion of a case—thus their famous nickname—the "Silent Service." One of our Nation's oldest law enforcement agencies, there are now 2,200 Inspectors, 350 of whom are females.