problems, with the most severe being the failure of the IHS and the BIA to fully pay contract support costs associated with carrying out these Federal Government programs under duly-executed contracts. This failure has amounted to a cruel hoax on the Native American people being served under these contracts.

Let me explain.

Mr. Speaker, the programs that have been turned over to Alaska Native and American Indian operation have from the beginning been severely underfunded. A recent study by the Indian Health Service shows that IHS programs, which are currently funded at roughly $2 billion, are still $13 billion short of meeting the health care needs of Indian and Alaska Native people. BIA funding is not much better. The tribal contractors therefore know that when they enter into a contract to operate a federal program locally, they will only be receiving a meager amount to meet the overwhelming needs of their communities. But what has made the situation much worse for these courageous tribal contractors, is that the agencies have forced the contractors to absorb the administrative costs of operating the Federal Government's own programs. The net effect is that there is even less available in these woefully underfunded programs to meet local needs.

Mr. Speaker, this should not be. In any other area where the Federal Government negotiates contracts with the private sector, the Federal Government fully pays the contractor's audited general and administrative overhead costs. Indeed if the government fails to pay, it can be held liable in a court of law. But somehow when it comes to Native American contractors, the Government thinks it's alright to change the rules, to break the contract, and to deny any liability regardless of the impact on the local people being served. Tribal contractors are made to be second-class contractors. Mr. Speaker, this is not right, and the bill I introduce today will put an end to this practice.

In addition, the bill will overcome a number of the more technical problems that have plagued this system. Just one example will make this clear.

Most Native American contractors administering IHS and BIA programs run a wide range of other federal programs too. For most tribes, the Interior Department's Office of Inspector General determines a reasonable and necessary administrative overhead rate required to carry out all these programs, using strict guidelines issued by the Office of Management and Budget. Under the controlling OMB circulars, each federal agency entering into contracts or grants with that tribal contractor is then required to abide by the government-wide indirect cost rate set by the OIG.

This system would be fair to the Federal Government, fair to all of the funding agencies, and most importantly fair to the tribal contractors themselves, if everybody played by the OMB Circular rules. But many federal agencies do not. They either ignore the government-wide rate that has been determined by the Inspector General, or they recognize only a fraction of the rate. Once again, the Native American contractors are left holding the bag. In 1998, a ten-year-old class action lawsuit against the Federal Government was eventually settled for over $70 million over this failure alone. The bill I introduce today assures that no such liabilities will ever recur in the future.

Further, this bill will clarify the rules governing the expenditure of contract funds; initiate a new measure to maximize efficiency in tribal program operations, improve Federal administration of the Act; clarify the rules governing the computation of contract support costs; provide the Federal agencies more time to plan for the transfer of Federal programs to tribal operation; and strengthen the Act's enforcement measures.

Mr. Speaker, in recent years I and many of my colleagues have worked very hard to correct the inequities in the contract support cost system. We have done this because that system is integral to the success of our country's overall Indian Self-Determination Policy. I believe firmly in reducing the size of the Federal bureaucracy. I believe firmly in maximizing local control. I believe firmly in the sanctity of our Government's private contracts with Indian and Alaska Native contractors. And I believe firmly that the Nation's Indian Self-Determination Policy must be corrected so that there is no longer an unfunded mandate that is paid for out of the very same trust programs that serve the neediest of the needs of our First Americans. I therefore urge that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle join me in seeing that this important legislation is enacted as swiftly as possible.

## FLOOR STATEMENT FOR TRIBAL CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS OF 2000

### HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, today my colleague Congressman DON YOUNG, Chairman of the Resources Committee, is introducing the "Tribal Contract Support Costs Technical Amendments of 2000." I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation which would make technical amendments to the contract support costs provisions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

Over the past two years, the House Resources Committee has focused substantial attention on the problems associated with ongoing shortfalls in payments to tribes for contract support costs. The committee has not taken on this task without assistance. The National Congress of American Indians, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Indian Health Service (IHS), and many tribes have reviewed the matter and have assisted in developing a long-term solution.

In 1975, Congress firmly launched the nation on a course of Indian self-determination by enacting the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. An important goal was to begin dismantling part of our highly inefficient federal bureaucracy by turning over the daily operation of Native American programs to the tribes and tribal organizations.

Twenty-five years later this Act has proven to be a resounding success. All across the country, tribes and tribal organizations are administering contracts to operate the federal government's hospitals, clinics, and many other programs.

Despite its successes, the policy of self-determination has been consistently plagued by problems, with the most severe being the failure of the IHS and BIA to fully pay contract support costs associated with carrying out these federal government programs under duly-executed contracts.

A recent study by the IHS shows that IHS programs, which are currently funded at roughly $2 billion, are still $13 billion short of meeting the health care needs of Indian and Alaska Native people. BIA funding is not much better. The net effect is that there is even less available in these woefully underfunded programs to meet local needs. This is not right.

The "Tribal Contract Support Costs Technical Amendments of 2000" will clarify the rules governing the expenditure of contract funds, initiate a new measure to maximize efficiency in tribal program operations, improve federal administration of the Act; clarify the rules governing the computation of contract support costs; provide federal agencies more time to plan for the transfer of federal programs to tribal operation; and strengthen the Act's enforcement measures.

I urge swift consideration of this proposal to ensure that Congress' support for Indian self-determination continues.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES TO PROTECT AND INVEST IN OUR NATION'S STUDENTS (EDUCATION OPTIONS)

### HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Education OPTIONS Act, the last component of the House's reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The Education OPTIONS (Opportunities to Protect and Invest in Our Nation's Students) bill would allow states and local school districts unprecedented authority to transfer federal funds among programs to better meet their needs.

This bill makes significant improvements in the remaining programs in ESEA, streamlines programs, reduces bureaucracy, and increases dollars going to the classroom. We continue our focus on quality, as well as local and parental empowerment.

Education OPTIONS includes a provision to allow States and local school districts to transfer Federal funds among major programs in order to better meet their unique circumstances, including targeting students with the greatest academic needs.

I continue to believe that state and local educational agencies, along with parents, are in a better position than we are in Washington to determine how best to use federal funds to help students improve their academic achievement. Education OPTIONS puts the priority on children rather than federal regulations.

The legislation includes programs for violence and drug abuse prevention, technology in the classroom, charter schools, and a number of other smaller authorizations. ESEA governs the bulk of the federal government's involvement in elementary and secondary education. Once this bill is completed the House will have completed the ESEA reauthorization process that we began last year with the following components: Education Flexibility Partnership Act (signed into law as P.L. 106–25); Teacher Empowerment Act, H.R. 1995 (passed the House); Student Results Act, H.R. 2 (passed the House); Academic Achievement for All Act, H.R. 2300 (passed the House); LIFT (Literacy Involves Families Together), H.R. 3222, and Impact Aid, H.R. 3616, were approved last month in committee and are awaiting consideration by the full House.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

## HONORING CAPTAIN JOSEPH AVVEDUTI, CMDR., U.S.S. ''KALAMAZOO''

### HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to come today before this House and the American people to formally thank and honor a true American hero, Capt. Joseph Avveduti, for his great and long service to our nation.

Captain Avveduti served as commander of the U.S.S. *Kalamazoo* from September 1995 to August 1996, and will be retiring from the U.S. Navy in July of this year. His retirement will not only be a great loss to our Armed Forces, but our nation as a whole.

Joseph Avveduti first came to my attention as commander of the U.S.S. *Kalamazoo,* a vessel whose namesake is Kalamazoo, MI, a city in my district. Like the residents of Kalamazoo, Captain Avveduti represents the best America has to offer.

In reviewing his distinguished service record, Captain Avveduti's dedication to his country is immediately evident. Throughout his many years of meritorious service to our country, he has been awarded the Bronze Star, three Meritorious Service Medals, the Air Medal and the prestigious Legion of Merit in addition to service and campaign medals too numerous to name here.

Captain Avveduti should be embraced as a shining example for many young men and women who are entering our Armed Forces today. After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1974, he was designated a naval aviator and served his initial aviation tour with the helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron in Jacksonville, FL.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Joseph Avveduti has not only spoken of dedication and service to our nation throughout his career—he's lived it. Between 1983 and 1985 while serving as the assistant air officer of the U.S.S. *Guam,* Joseph Avveduti saw combat in Grenada and in Beirut, Lebanon. Just a few years later, Captain Avveduti was once again called to arms to defend democracy during Operation Desert Storm. During this conflict, by all accounts, Captain Avveduti served valiantly aboard the U.S.S. *Saratoga* in the Red Sea as part of the team that successfully defeated Saddam Hussein and restored freedom to the people of Kuwait.

After returning to the United States, in 1997 Captain Avveduti graduated from the National War College here in Washington, DC, and, in his tradition of continuing dedication, he currently holds the Chief of Naval Operations Chair at that institution.

Mr. Speaker, I believe I speak for every Member of this Congress and a grateful nation when I extend to Captain Avveduti, his wife Carol, and his sons Joseph and David, our best wishes for a happy, healthy, and productive retirement. Because I am humbled by his dedication and achievements, I ask your indulgence in making these remarks part of the permanent record of the Congress so that all Americans, now and in the future, can read and reflect on the honor, distinguished service and achievements of a great American—Capt. Joseph Avveduti.

## VALLEY GRANGE HONORED ON 100TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Valley Grange 1184 of Danville, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of its charter. Valley Grange was chartered April 2, 1900, and has been continuously active since that date.

The Grange is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life through educational, social and legislative activities; promoting family life through family-oriented activities; advancing the cause of agriculture; developing rural leadership; and acting as a spokesman in public affairs.

From its founding, the Grange has been in the forefront of the fight to secure fair treatment and better conditions for farm and rural citizens. From securing rural free mail delivery to rural electrification, to fair prices for farm products to local tax reform, the Grange has been there for its citizens, ''preserving the traditions of yesterday and ensuring the hope for tomorrow,'' as its current slogan proclaims.

The Grange deserves much credit for preserving the very traditions that have made America a strong and caring country—traditions such as legislative action, family values, citizenship, stewardship and community service.

Exemplifying commitment to those traditions are ten members of the Grange in Danville who will be honored for their many years of continuous membership when Valley Grange celebrates its 100-year milestone with a dinner at the Grange Hall on April 3.

I am pleased to join their fellow Valley Grange members in honoring the following people, who will be presented with certificates and pins for their dedication: Hazel Savage, 75 years; Sarah Kreisher and Clyde and Ruth Krum, 70 years; Lansford Steininger, 60 years; Robert George, 55 years; and James and Lois Hagenbuch, Dorothy Keefer and Minor Leighow, 25 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is people like these ten members of Valley Grange who help to keep rural America strong, and I am proud to wish them and their fellow members a happy 100th anniversary.

## 2000 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2000*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3908) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Chairman, I applaud the House's adoption of the amendment to H.R. 3908, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, offered by my colleague, the gentleman from Arkansas, Mr. HUTCHINSON.

My District is currently struggling with an explosion in the use, distribution, and production of methamphetamine. The number of methamphetamine incidents in the First District of Kentucky is estimated to be one of the highest in the country.

The outbreak of clandestine meth labs is creating a tremendous burden of local law enforcement agencies, especially in rural areas with small police departments. Methamphetamine investigations are time consuming and require unique techniques and specialized equipment. Law enforcement officers in making a meth bust cannot simply arrest the suspect or suspects; they must be certified to dispose of these volatile and hazardous chemicals.

This amendment will reallocate much needed funding to DEA for cleanup of hazardous materials at clandestine methamphetamine laboratories. The funds available to DEA for lab cleanups were recently exhausted.

Western Kentucky was fortunate enough to receive a $1 million earmark for methamphetamine eradication and cleanup. However, we could still experience a funding shortfall based on statistics provided to me by DEA. During Fiscal Year 1999, there were 58 meth lab cleanups in the State of Kentucky; 50 were in my District. During the first quarter of this year, there were 25 meth lab cleanups in Kentucky and 20 were in my District.

This is a serious problem we can't ignore.

## GRANTING CHINA PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS (PNTR)

### HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2000*

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, a great nation has to stand on its principles. If it fails to do