

May 3, 2000

As I said, charter schools are essential to building a successful education system. Thirty-six states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico have passed laws authorizing charter schools. It is my hope that Indiana will be the thirty-seventh. By adopting a strong charter school law, we will ensure that no child is left behind.

For these reasons, I am an original co-sponsor of this resolution and an enthusiastic supporter of National Charter Schools Week.

IN COMMEMORATION OF
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2000

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I commend Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, which memorializes the six million Jews murdered during World War II.

This somber anniversary is a tribute to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust, the heroism of those who fought back, and the strength of those who survived. A national holiday in Israel, Yom Hashoah is also commemorated in communities across this country.

I strongly believe that we must act on our promise to "never forget" by acting on our responsibility to teach future generations about the lessons of the Holocaust. As we prepare our children for a new century, we must instill in them the tolerance and compassion to prevent the greatest terror of the past century from ever being repeated in the next. The legacy of the survivors of the Holocaust and of those who perished will only live on if we educate people about this history.

It was only last month that British Courts exonerated historian Deborah Lipstadt of the libel charges brought by a Holocaust denier. Although the decision reaffirmed that Holocaust denial is false history and Nazi sympathy, it is unfortunate that such attempts to distort and trivialize the Holocaust abound. The release of the Eichmann diaries as evidence used in the trial only further establishes the reality of the Holocaust and the dangers of those who seek to deny it.

Today is an opportunity to recommit ourselves to stand against anti-Semitism, discrimination, and intolerance in all forms, at home and abroad. We reflect upon the murder of 6 million innocent Jewish men, women and children, and the systematic destruction of families and vibrant communities. We reestablish our determination to confront the past, and our dedication to perpetuating the memory of those who suffered.

GREEN UP DAY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute the citizens of Vermont who are

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

celebrating the 30th anniversary of Green Up Day.

In the 1960s and 70s, Vermont was on the cutting edge in environmental sensitivity. As U.S. Senator George Aiken's remarks revealed in the May 5, 1971 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

"Mr. President, several times recently, I have advised the Senate of things going on in Vermont which have lent and can lend encouragement and inspiration to the other States. I now have to report another event which could have far-reaching results. Last Saturday, May 1, a successful demonstration occurred in my State. This demonstration—called Green Up Day—was put on largely by our young people and extended into every community throughout the length and breadth of Vermont. About 75,000 people collected virtually every glass bottle, every metal can, every scrap of paper which had been cast onto the roadsides by careless and unthinking people. The result was that by Saturday evening, Vermont was undoubtedly the cleanest State in the Nation."

Mr. Speaker, this May Day ritual continues to be an expression in the finest American tradition. People—young, old and in between—businessmen, farmers, workers, students, families, all working together to clean up the state. Vermont's clean up, the Vermont way, continues to inspire others, and it should serve as a model for dealing with litter nationwide.

Though all other states address litter with "Adopt-A-Highway," and 21 states now designate a day for statewide cleaning, none matches Vermont's long-standing Green Up Day community tradition. I salute the citizens of Vermont for their commitment to the environment, to our state and to the tradition. Happy 30th anniversary Green Up Vermont.

A TRIBUTE TO WAYNE REED

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Wayne Reed of Harrisburg, Illinois on his 80th birthday. Wayne's birthday was two weeks ago on April 23, 2000. He has born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Reed in Harrisburg, and has lived there all of his life. He has three sisters and two brothers still living. Wayne and his wife Jeanne, who sadly passed away last year, raised three wonderful sons: Ray, a firefighter in Dallas, Texas; Ron, a letter carrier and ordained minister who resides in Harrisburg; and Randy, a mortician and owner of Reed Funeral Chapel in Harrisburg.

The Reed family has a long tradition of military service. Wayne is a United States Army veteran of World War Two. Two of his brothers are also veterans of the United States Army and his son Ray is a Vietnam-era veteran. His grandfather, Lewis Reed of Hardin County, Illinois was a Civil War veteran. Wayne was also a volunteer fire fighter with the Harrisburg Fire Department for over thirty years. He is a carpenter by occupation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage all of my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to congratulate Wayne Reed on a

happy eightieth birthday. I do not know Wayne personally, but I have met with his son Ray, and from his biography I can tell that Wayne is a proud American and a good father to his family. I hope he enjoys his birthday and I wish him Godspeed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to inclement weather and the inability to arrive in Washington DC yesterday, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as indicated below.

Rollcall No. 131—Yes; rollcall No. 132—Yes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I apologize for my absence from the House of Representatives on May 2, 2000. I was unavoidably detained in Indiana for my Primary election, and unfortunately missed two recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "Aye" for both Rollcall votes 131 and 132.

LETTER CARRIERS WORK TO
STAMP OUT HUNGER—A NATION-
WIDE FOOD DRIVE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, May 13, 2000, the largest one-day food drive in the country will take place. Letter carriers from across the country will be collecting non-perishable food items from their customers and the food will then be taken to local food pantries for distribution. In Milwaukee, the Hunger Task Force feeds approximately 35,000 individuals each month through a network of more than 80 food pantries.

Sponsors of this worthwhile project are the National Association of Letter Carriers, in conjunction with the United States Postal Service, the AFL-CIO, United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Hunger Task Force of Milwaukee.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to ask that my colleagues lend their support to the letter carriers' food drives in their hometowns and districts. To my fellow residents in Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties, in order to meet the high demand for food over the summer, I ask that you consider buying a few extra canned goods and nonperishable items while doing the weekly grocery shopping. Let's make this year's food drive better than ever.