

gentleness, Ms. Foster truly understands the needs of her children. Ms. Janie Thomas, the kindergarten teacher at Scott Elementary, is also a greatly admired teacher. Her creative approach makes children excited to return to school each day.

Ms. Janet Bulcher is a teacher at Stanley Hall Enrichment Center in Evansville, Indiana and other sites where she is an itinerant special education teacher. Known for her honesty, energy, and insight, Ms. Bulcher is deeply dedicated to the welfare of her students and their education. Ms. Bulcher works hard to improve the system of education, demonstrating to fellow adults how to work together to help children.

At Ball State University in my home town of Muncie, Indiana, Dr. Neil R. Schmottlach is the John and Janice Fisher Distinguished Professor of Wellness and Gerontology and the Director of the Fisher Institute for Wellness and Gerontology. Dr. Schmottlach promotes wellness education to thousands of kindergarten to Higher Education learners and educators. Adept at using technology, he provides learners with a rich learning environment.

Ms. Victoria Brush is a teacher and leader at Roncalli High School in Indianapolis, Indiana. Completing 52 years of teaching business courses, she has seen technology advance from old manual typewriters, to electric typewriters, to computers. Ms. Brush is also Roncalli High School's number one cheerleader who enthusiastically attends a majority of the games. According to those who know her, she is a truly humble, sincere person.

In Franklin, Indiana, Ms. Becki Biberdorf is a homeschool teacher. Deeply dedicated to her sons, she spends countless hours planning trips, developing lesson plans, and searching out exciting things to teach. She greets the awesome responsibility of teaching her own children, molding their character, and setting them on life's path with grace and wisdom.

Retired teacher Mr. Gene Aurand taught English at Reitz Francis Joseph High School in Evansville, Indiana. He also served on various legislative committees for the Evansville Teachers Association and has been active with the town board in Newburgh, Indiana. Having dedicated his life to teaching, he has earned the respect of his peers and students.

Mr. Speaker, these caring and talented teachers are of immeasurable worth to Indiana. They serve day in and day out, teaching our children and helping them grow to adulthood. They are the pride of our community and essential to our quality of life. In the words of Historian Henry Brooks Adams "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."

MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY BEING UNJUSTLY IMPRISONED IN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2000

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I submit for the RECORD a statement that I issued yes-

terday concerning the plight of the 13 Jews in Iran who have unjustly been imprisoned on unfounded charges of spying for the State of Israel. I am pleased that this statement was read yesterday at a rally in support of the imprisoned Iranian Jews that was held at the Jewish Community Center in Tenafly, New Jersey. I am encouraged that the rally, which was sponsored by the UJA Federation of Bergen County & North Hudson, the Rabbinical Council of Bergen County, the North Jersey Board of Rabbis, the JCC on the Palisades and the YJCC of Bergen County, served to raise the public's awareness of the plight of the 13 imprisoned Iranian Jews.

May 10, 2000.

DEAR FRIENDS: I want to express my solidarity with each and every person who has gathered at the JCC tonight to show their support for the "Iran 13." Your presence at this community meeting sends a clear message to the political leaders of Iran that the eyes of the American people are strongly focused on the plight of Jews who are being imprisoned unjustly in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Just as importantly, tonight you are also sending a message to the Iran 13 that they have not been forgotten.

I regret that Congressional business requires me to be in Washington tonight, but I do want to share with you my full support to the leaders and members of the UJA Federation of Bergen County & North Hudson, the Rabbinical Council of Bergen County, the North Jersey Board of Rabbis, the JCC on the Palisades and the YJCC of Bergen County for sponsoring and arranging this community-wide gathering.

When fanatics within the Iranian Government first moved last year to arrest Jews living in the southern Fars province of Iran, on trumped up charges of spying for the "Zionist regime," I promptly wrote to the President of Iran, Mohammed Khatami, to demand that they immediately be released. Not surprisingly, to this day, I have yet to receive the courtesy of a reply to my letter. And truthfully, I do not expect the Iranian authorities to respond to my letter, because that would force them to put on paper a case that is based solely on anti-Israel rhetoric and bolstered by lies, mistruths and fabrications.

More recently, I have cosponsored legislation, House Concurrent Resolution 128, that calls on the Clinton Administration to condemn the arrest of members of Iran's Jewish minority and urges their immediate release. The bill also calls on all nations that have relations with Iran to condemn the treatment of religious minorities in Iran and to call for the release of all prisoners, including the Iran 13, who are being held in prison solely on the basis of their religious beliefs.

Today, my fear for the physical safety of the Iran 13 is very real and predicated on the fact that five Jews have been executed by the Iranian government in the past five years without ever having been tried. These executions help explain why over half of the Jews in Iran have fled since 1979, many of them leaving to escape the state sponsored religious persecution orchestrated by supporters of the late Ayatollah Khomeini.

I urge each and every person present tonight to be vigilant and continue your demand that the Government of Iran immediately release the Iran 13. The fact is, our voices can be heard by the Jewish community in Iran and we owe that beleaguered community no less than to work diligently and tirelessly for the freedom of those innocent people.

Again, I commend those in attendance tonight. I commend the organizers of this community meeting and I commend those public officials and members of the clergy who this evening have come forward to shine the public's spotlight on a terrible injustice occurring within Iran.

I look forward to working with all of you in the days ahead to seek the immediate release of the Iran 13.

Sincerely,

STEVEN R. ROTHMAN,
Member of Congress.

REGARDING SECTION 110 OF THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION REFORM AND IMMIGRANT RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1996

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I am in support of repealing Section 110 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996. While I certainly support the goal of enhanced immigration enforcement through better record-keeping at our nation's borders, implementing Section 110 prior to the establishment of a speedy automated entry-exit system will cause serious problems on the borders. Specifically, mandatory documentation will create massive traffic delays that would clog both the Northern and Southern borders, and obstruct trade and tourism nationwide.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service does not have the technology in place to carry out the entry-exit system required by Section 110 without unacceptable delays at all border crossings. As a representative from the State of Washington, my constituents will be adversely affected by the implementation of Section 110. In 1999, Washington State alone exported close to \$3 billion worth of goods to Canada. Applying Section 110 without adequate technology in place will create lines of waiting vehicles stretching several miles that would severely cripple trade, travel, and tourism between Washington State and Canada.

Likewise, in 1999, Washington State had close to 5.5 million border crossings at its 5 border stations. Of this, over 300,000 crossings were at the border station in Oroville, Washington, which is in my district. Oroville is a relatively small community in Central Washington that is not equipped to handle the extensive traffic jams that would be caused by Section 110. The City of Oroville recently adopted Resolution 391, and I submit the resolution to be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. In the Resolution, the City of Oroville requests that Congress delay the implementation of Section 110 until the United States Attorney General has addressed and resolved the issues and concerns relating to implementation.

Until technologies are developed to allow for extensive record-keeping at our border stations while ensuring timely border crossings, it is simply unreasonable to try and implement Section 110.

RESOLUTION NO. 391

A resolution to urge the United States Congress ("Congress") to repeal or delay the

May 11, 2000

implementation of Section 110 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 ("Act").

Whereas, Section 110 of the Act requires the establishment of an automated entry-exit control system at all airports, seaports and land border crossings to "collect a record of departure for every alien departing the United States and match the records of departure with the record of the Alien's arrival in the United States";

Whereas, implementation of Section 110 will add to the congestion at international crossings and increase the size and amount of delays and holdups at border crossings;

Whereas, delays and holdups at the border crossings will limit the potential for industry expansion and will have negative national and international economic impacts on efficiency, service and jobs;

Whereas, trade and tourism between the United States and its North American neighbors has grown considerably since the enactment of NAFTA;

Whereas, trade and tourism are becoming an increasingly important sector of both the local border economies and the national economy;

Whereas, the World Travel and Tourism Council predicts that travel and tourism will ultimately account for 100 million jobs in this decade;

Whereas, through steady, incremental efforts, current alien arrival and departure data collection and sharing systems at ports of entry may be improved in ways that will advance important national objectives including expanded trade, travel and tourism, enhanced national security and law enforcement;

Whereas, future advances in data collection technology will enable federal, state and local governments and the private sector to increase the flow of goods and persons across our national borders.

Whereas, the appropriate agencies within the Administration, through advances in technology over time, may be able to recommend to Congress how to improve alien arrival and departure data collection and sharing systems at land and sea ports of entry in ways that advance important national objectives, including expanded trade, travel and tourism, enhanced national security and law enforcement;

Whereas, any such recommendations from the appropriate agencies should involve cooperative efforts between the public and private sectors including federal, state and local governments to ensure appropriate realization of these objectives;

Whereas, the technology to collect the data required by Section 110 of the Act is not yet commercially feasible;

Whereas, it is of critical importance that the data collection system created pursuant to Section 110 of the Act not interfere with the ebb and flow of goods and persons across our national borders.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of the City of Oroville. That that City of Oroville urges the United States Congress to delay implementation of Section 110 of the illegal immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 until the United States Attorney General has addressed and resolved the issues and concerns of this resolution in coordination with the private sector and state and local governments.

Passed this 2nd day of May, 2000.

DAVID K. REYNOLDS, Mayor.

KATHY M. JONES, Clerk-Treasurer.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM CENTENNIAL ACT

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2000

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act. I am joined in this important effort by the distinguished chairman of the House Resources Committee, DON YOUNG, the ranking Democratic member of the Committee, GEORGE MILLER, the ranking Democratic subcommittee member, ENI FALEOMAVAEGA, the Dean of the House of Representatives, JOHN DINGELL, and our colleague, DUKE CUNNINGHAM.

Since becoming chairman of the House Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, I have held many hearings on the operation, maintenance, and management of our nation's National Wildlife refuge System. This unique system of Federal lands provides essential habitat for hundreds of fish and wildlife species, including more than 258 species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

The first wildlife refuge was created at Pelican Island, FL, in 1903 by President Theodore Roosevelt. Today the System has 521 refuges and 38 wetland management districts, which are located in all 50 States and the 9 Commonwealths, Territories, and island possessions. These units range in size from the smallest of less than one acre, the Mille Lacs National Wildlife Refuge in Minnesota, to the largest of 19.3 million acres in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. Money for refuge land acquisition primarily comes from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.

During the past 5 years, my subcommittee has taken a leadership role in approving legislation to improve our National Wildlife Refuge System. Without question, the most important change was the enactment of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. This landmark Act, P.L. 105-57, was sponsored by Chairman DON YOUNG and, for the first time, it created a comprehensive "organic law" governing the management of the world's largest and most diverse network of lands devoted to fish and wildlife. This historic measure also created a statutory shield to ensure that hunting and fishing and other forms of wildlife-dependent recreation will continue within the Refuge System, and it facilitates these traditional activities where compatible with conservation.

The second improvement, which I was honored to sponsor, was the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act. This legislation will improve the infrastructure of the Refuge System by encouraging volunteer activities. In 1999, over 28,000 individuals volunteered more than 1.3 million hours, which was worth more than \$11 million in services. These services included staffing visitors centers, conducting hunter safety classes, landscaping, and operating heavy equipment. My bill, which was signed into law on October 5, 1998, will

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encourage additional volunteers by establishing up to 20 pilot projects for the purpose of hiring full-time volunteer coordinators. It also made it easier for interested individuals and groups to donate money or services to a particular refuge.

Finally, during the past 4 years, a bipartisan group of Members, including myself, DON YOUNG, GEORGE MILLER, ENI FALEOMAVAEGA, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, JOHN DINGELL, and others have vigorously lobbied the House Appropriations Committee to increase funding to reduce the Refuge System's operations and maintenance backlog. Together with the Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement (CARE), we were successful in persuading our Appropriations colleagues to increase funding for this account by \$86 million, which is a down payment on the maintenance backlog. While these increases were significant, there is much work to be done to reach the goal of having a fully operational Refuge System by 2003.

The legislation I am introducing today recognizes the vital importance of the Refuge System and the fact that the System will celebrate its centennial anniversary in 3 years. Under the terms of this bill, a Commission will be established to promote awareness of the System; develop a long-term plan to meet the priority operations, maintenance and construction needs of the System; and to improve public use programs and facilities.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Commission would be composed of 11 voting members, including the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In addition, the chairman and ranking minority members of the House Resources and Senate Environment and Public Works Committees, plus the congressional members of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, would serve as ex officio members.

The Commission would be charged with the responsibility for preparing a plan to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the System, coordinating activities to celebrate that event, and hosting a conference on the National Wildlife Refuge System. The Commission would issue annual reports and would terminate no later than September 30, 2004.

Finally, this bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to prepare and submit to the Congress a long-term plan to address priority operations, maintenance, and construction needs of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Mr. Speaker, I anticipate that my subcommittee will conduct a hearing on this legislation in the near future. The American people deserve the finest Refuge System in the world. This bill is an appropriate next step in our efforts to ensure that the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt, one of our Nation's greatest conservationists, will live on in the years ahead.

Ahead, I want to thank my distinguished colleagues for joining with me in this endeavor, and I urge enthusiastic support for the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act.