EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

June 15, 2000

funding in H.R. 4577 completely undermines the public prioritization of education as a paramount concern in our nation. In its current form, this legislation is nothing more than a self-serving, weak, and irresponsible bill that responds to the needs of the privileged few at the expense of all others.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Mr. Stan Pilcher who is retiring after 35 years of dedicated service to the State University of New York, Stony Brook, in 1973 and a master's degree in Journalism at UC Berkeley in 1977. John Jacobs was recognized as a Knight Professional Journalism Fellow at Stanford University in 1984–1985 and a visiting scholar at Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies. It was there that he researched most of his book, "A Rage for Justice," a biography of Phil Burton. At the beginning of his distinguished literary career, Mr. Jacobs spent a year as a general assignment reporter on the national desk for the Washington Post. He later made his mark writing for his hometown newspaper, the San Francisco Examiner. He wrote for the Examiner for 15 years before joining the Sacramento Bee in 1993 as a political editor.

In his many years in journalism, John Jacobs worked tirelessly to generate public interest in politics. He helped to define politics in Northern California as a way of defining American democracy. Despite his criticism of ideological politics in this deeply cynical age, his belief in our system shone through. He challenged us to examine the political system from a different perspective. In doing so, he celebrated politics in a time when few others did. In his book, "A Rage for Justice," he celebrated politics in a time when few others did. John Jacobs maintained his perspective and generated his positive attitude through his love for his family. His wife (Carol Bydolf) and children (Max and Marguerite) contributed to his caring and generous personality. He refused to use his position to attack or belittle others. He will be remembered for his vigor, his optimism, and his hunger for knowledge in an arena that he truly adored.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to pay tribute to John Jacobs, a truly outstanding member of our community. Mr. Jacobs' columns have become a part of our lives in Sacramento and the Bay Area, and his presence in Northern California will be sincerely missed. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in celebrating his accomplishments and extending our deepest condolences to his family.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN JACOBS

HON. ROBERT T. MATSU
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. MATSU. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to John Jacobs. One of the most well known and respected political journalists in Northern California, Mr. Jacobs recently passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer. His friends and family will gather for a memorial service on Thursday, June 15. I ask all my colleagues to join me in celebrating his accomplishments.

After attending Lowell High School in San Francisco, Mr. Jacobs graduated Phi Beta Kappa from UC Berkeley in 1972. He earned a master's degree in American history at the State University of New York, Stony Brook, in 1973 and a master's degree in Journalism at UC Berkeley in 1977.
Act, and experiments for environmentally safe biological controls are commendable to the agriculture community.

I wish Mr. Stan Pitcher a very happy retirement, and graciously thank him for his example of steadfast dedication to the agriculture community.

COMMENDING CARL H. LORBEER MIDDLE SCHOOL
HON. GARY G. MILLER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the students, teachers, parents, and support staff of Carl H. Lorbeer Middle School, the newest Blue Ribbon Award school in California’s 41st Congressional District.

Carl H. Lorbeer Middle School, located in Diamond Bar, California, is part of the Pomona Unified School District. Home to 950 seventh and eighth-graders, its student body is representative of California’s diverse culture. But despite the various backgrounds represented, each student is expected to contribute to a learning environment which demands high expectation. As a result, over 500 students make the honor roll each semester. The teachers and staff of this school are committed to giving “whatever it takes” to meet the needs of their students. This goal frequently requires involving the parents and community in school activities.

This combination of high expectations for students, committed teachers and staff, and parental involvement has made Carl H. Lorbeer Middle School one of America’s Blue Ribbon Schools.

TRIBUTE TO MARY L. CARROLL
HON. DONALD M. PAYNE
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring a special person, Ms. Mary L. Carroll, on the occasion of her retirement from Bell Atlantic after 32 1/2 years of loyal service.

Ms. Carroll began working for the Bell Telephone Company in New Jersey on December 9, 1967, as a telephone operator. In 1972, she was promoted to Service Assistant, a position she held until her retirement on September 17, 1999. Ms. Carroll became active in her union, the Communications Workers of America, where she held a number of key positions. She served as group leader for 9 years, secretary-treasurer for 6 years, and as president for three consecutive terms. She continues to hold that position for Local 1006. Ms. Carroll has earned an outstanding reputation for fairness, leadership, and concern for others.

Family has always been important to Ms. Carroll, who was the oldest of 12 children born to her parents John and Annie Mae of Hen-derson, N.C. She takes pride in her own children, Raymond, Valencia, and Ray and her grandchildren, Jovan, Andrea, Ray Sean, and Little Raymond. In addition, she treasures her extended family at Bell Atlantic and the Communications Workers of America.

On June 16, 2000, family and friends will gather in New Jersey for a retirement celebration in honor of Ms. Carroll. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues and I will miss the matronial humor of Ms. Carroll on a job well done and in wishing her all the best as she begins a new phase of her life.

THE BACA RANCH
HON. TOM UDALL
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to bring to your attention the beautiful Baca Ranch which lies in my third congressional district of New Mexico. I have worked very closely with the entire New Mexico congressional delegation: Senator PETE V. DOMENICI, Senator JEFF BINGAMAN, HEATHER WILSON, the gentlelady from the 1st District, and Representative JOE SKEEN of the 2nd District, to ensure that the Baca Ranch can become part of our citizens’ patrimony. It is my hope that very soon this chamber will favorably consider and approve the acquisition of the Baca Ranch that all of us in the delegation have worked so intently for. I believe that we must preserve this natural treasure for the future generations in New Mexico and throughout out country.

New Mexico Magazine is the oldest state magazine in the United States. Every month this periodical publishes articles and items of interest that touch persons who are interested in or feel affection for the Land of Enchantment. The June 2000 issue contains a beautiful layout that includes a description and photographs by Douglas Preston and photographer Christine Preston. The editors of New Mexico Magazine have granted me the honor of inserting the text of this article into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD so that everyone can share in the wonder that is this article into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD so that everyone can share in the wonder that is the Baca Ranch.

[From The New Mexico Magazine, June 2000]

BUYING THE BACA
(By Douglas Preston)

N.M. 4, the main road through the Jémez Mountains, climbs through steep canyons and ponderosa forests for many miles. As it reaches the heart of the mountains, a spectacular vista breaks out: a high meadow of incredible vastness, called the Valle Grande, riboned with streams and ringed by 11,000-foot peaks. Those who stop to admire the view can’t help but notice the barbed wire fence and “No Trespassing” signs that indicate this enticing valley and the mountains beyond lie on private property.

This vast, windswept world is known as the Baca Location No. 1, a 100,000-acre ranch embedded within the Santa Fe National Forest. For more than half a century the federal government has tried to acquire this extraordinary piece of land. Last fall the Forest Service and the family that owns the property, the Dunigans, reached a tentative agreement to transfer the property to the American people for $101 million. All that remains is for Congress to provide the funds. If the deal goes through it will be one of the largest and most important land acquisitions in the American West in decades.

The Baca Location No. 1—also known as the Baca Land and Cattle Company—encumbers one of the legendary geological landscapes in America, known as the Valles Caldera. The Valle Grande and the mountains and valleys beyond are the remnants of a gigantic crater, called a caldera, formed by an eruption more than a million years ago. Much of what we know about volcanic caldera formation comes from decades of exploration of the Valles Caldera. It is one of the world’s most intensively studied geological landscapes.

An observer standing on the site of Santa Fe 1.2 million years ago, looking westward, would have witnessed the birth of the Valles Caldera in a cataclysm of breathtaking violence. Before the eruption, our observer would have seen a grouping of interlapping volcanic peaks not unlike mountains today, shaped by earlier volcanic activity. (Polvadera and Chicoma Peaks in the Jémez today are remnants of these earlier volcanic cones.) Contrary to popular belief, there was never a mountain anywhere near as high as Mt. Everest at the site. The highest peaks in this earlier range were probably about 12,000 feet—the same as the Jémez today.

The big blowup started out small—some faint earth tremors, the distant sound of thunder and a cauliflower of ash rising into the clear sky. Because the prevailing winds were blowing out of the southeast carrying the ash toward Utah, our Santa Fe observer would have had an excellent view. Over the days and weeks, a nascent volcano gradually built up through fresh eruptions, each bigger than the last. And then the climax came.

One or more furious explosions hurtled from the vent, the thunderous noise so profound that at midday you could not see your hand in front of your face. When the dust settled, the ash must have covered an area 100,000 feet in diameter with thick deposits of orange ash at more than a thousand degrees, glowing orange at more than a thousand degrees, and ash that was blown thousands of feet above the vent. Some of the ash was blown kilometers off the Baca Ranch, numbing everything in its path. (Polvadera and Chicoma Peaks in the Jémez today are remnants of these earlier volcanic cones.)

Huge boulders, hundreds of tons each, were carried many miles. The clouds of ash 100,000 feet into the atmosphere created its own weather system. The eruption became horizontal instead of vertical. The pumice and ash, in a state of shock, rose in a cloud of apocalyptic proportions. (Polvadera and Chicoma Peaks in the Jémez today are remnants of these earlier volcanic cones.)

When these superheated avalanches hit the Rio Grande, they vaporized the river with a fantastic roar. The ash piled into the river, causing it to back up into a lake. When the water finally burst downstream, devastating flash floods swept downstream. The spreading clouds of ash had a profound effect that at midday you could not see the hand in front of your face. When the dust...