

families, their kids' educations, and in a lot of other ways. I am sure it is true in Tennessee as well.

Mr. CLEMENT. The gentleman is absolutely right. And I have heard so many people in Tennessee say why not? We should not have been overlooked in 1986. I know neither one of us were in Congress when that happened, when they passed the 1986 tax reform, but the fact is someone did not fight for us. Someone did not fight for those seven States.

I know some of those northeastern Congressmen say, well, we wanted to make sure that if an individual lived in a State with a State income tax that they could deduct that from their Federal income tax returns. Well, treat us fairly as well, where we can deduct some taxes from our Federal income tax return, so we have fairness and equity for all in the United States.

FAITH-BASED INITIATIVES A PRIORITY WITH PRESIDENT BUSH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SOUDER. Earlier this week, President George Bush announced his faith-based initiatives office and different proposals that he will be sending down to Congress. Earlier today, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS), who has been a leader in this effort, and Senator RICK SANTORUM, along with the gentlewoman from Kentucky (Mrs. NORTHUP) and myself, and Senators TIM HUTCHINSON and SAM BROWNBACK held a press conference with a number of leaders from Michigan, Florida, and other places around the United States to highlight some of these initiatives.

There are a number of questions that I wanted to address here as we prepare to analyze and hopefully report the President's package and add different things we have considered here in the House and Senate to it as well.

First and foremost, this is not a new idea. Former Congressman and Senator Dan Coats, when he was in the House, had a number of these initiatives. In the Senate, the Agenda for American Renewal. Former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Jack Kemp had a number of faith-based initiatives there because a lot of people would not reach out and care for those with AIDS. In the early stages of the AIDS crisis, as people were dying, there were all sorts of false rumors around and many people did not care for them. Without the faith-based communities, if the government had not reached out to the faith-based communities and involved them, there would have been many people dying of AIDS who would not have received any assistance whatsoever. Nobody objected to the faith-based communities coming and working.

Similarly in homelessness, the Federal dollars, the State dollars, and the local dollars were not enough to address the homeless questions. So, under HUD, they expanded into the faith-based organizations back in the Bush administration. That was continued under Secretary Cisneros and continued under Secretary Cuomo. It is not fair to say that these things are suddenly new and that President Bush is trying to insert religion into the national debate. It has been there. The difference is, instead of an afterthought, President Bush wants to make it a focus. He is saying that all these flowering organizations that are developed in every neighborhood, particularly those that are hurting the most, there are people making a difference and we need to tap into that.

Now, a second question that comes up is, well, these examples that are brought forth and are talked about at press conferences or that are talked about by Gene Rivers in Boston or Freddie Garcia in San Antonio, they are just exceptions. They are not the rules. We could not possibly make this program work on a large scale because, while there are a few people here and there toiling away, this cannot possibly be part of an integrated strategy. That is just false.

The largest city in my district is Fort Wayne, Indiana. I want to give an example of the breadth of what we are talking about here. Reverend Bill McGill was executive director of Stop the Madness. After one pastor's son was shot in the center city of Fort Wayne while he was sitting at a YMCA and two guys got in a gun fight, he decided to form an organization called Stop the Madness. Bill McGill headed that organization. Now he is executive director of One Church, One Offender. We have churches throughout north-east Indiana and Fort Wayne in particular who are working to adopt people who have gotten in trouble with the law and who are now coming out. Who is going to help them get a job and work with them? This is a tremendous program.

The Ewell Wilson Center was started by Shirley Woods and her husband after their boy, who was a star athlete, was shot. She has a community center now who works with kids. It is disconcerting that she has to fight for every little game unit, for every computer, for every little thing because she is not a high-powered organization. It is just a couple of people who said we care about the kids in our area. They do not have grant writers or the so-called beltway bandits. How can people making a difference at the grass roots level do it?

Reverend Jessey and Anthony Beasley came to me. They have an inner-city church and they are trying to figure out how to get a youth program started for the after-school kids

because we have a huge crack problem in Fort Wayne and a high murder rate, and they do not know where to turn to do that.

George Middleton took some of his savings out to help build a youth center, and he is building this with his private money and getting volunteers in. But he can only do so much. And when someone does not get the help, they get tired too fast. They are working 18 hours a day. Here are the people who are actually doing it in the ZIP code where they live and we cannot get the dollars to them.

Friends of mine, Barb and Lonnie Cox, had their family touched and friends touched by the drug problem, so they went to the bishop and through the parish there they formed a house to reach people who have been battling drug addiction.

There is Father Glenn Kehrman in Fort Wayne. We have an influx of Burmese come in, as they have had a conflict in that country. We have programs for people of Spanish language, often through faith-based organizations because often they are involved in the Catholic church or Pentecostal churches, but in this case, in the Asian community, we did not have any direct funds where the Catholic church could figure out how to do English as a second language to a subgroup.

This is what President Bush is talking about. We have lots of people already there; we have lots more interested, but they have not had access to it. I congratulate the President for making this a foremost priority rather than an afterthought.

HONORING THE LIFE OF OLIVE WEHBRING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Olive Wehbring. Communities are indeed fortunate to have political activists who choose to devote their time to the cause of good government after they retire from a paid career. It is rare when that commitment to public issues becomes another 30-year career. Olive Wehbring, who passed away recently in San Diego at the age of 95, was just such an exemplary citizen.

When I was a young mother and new board member of the San Diego League of Women Voters, I was delighted to meet Olive and to be introduced by her and to the intricacies of local government. She was a model for several generations of League of Women Voters leaders. Her enthusiasm was matched by tireless perseverance and sitting through long meetings, whether they be a county health committee, a regional planning meeting of the San Diego Association of Governments, or a

city planning commission hearing. In fact, she attended a meeting of regional planners only 3 months before she died from complications of breast cancer.

Three years ago, I had the opportunity to speak at a State League of Women Voters convention in San Diego, and Olive, well over 90 years old, appeared at the meeting. She had volunteered all morning at the registration table, driven 10 miles home to check on her cat during lunch, drove back downtown, parked, and walked several blocks in time for the afternoon session.

Olive's energy was legendary. Her spirit indomitable and her intellect unsparing. She served as President of the League of Women Voters of San Diego County in 1981, and for the city league she authored a guide to the city's structure and operation. Mrs. Wehbring was also active in the Church of the Good Samaritan, where she served as clerk of the vestry and as head of the Altar Guild.

Olive was born here in Washington, DC, but grew up in New York. After graduating in 1927 from Smith College, where she was a competitive swimmer, she became a reference librarian. Managing the reference department for a library in White Plains, New York, she earned a Master's Degree in library science in 1955 from Columbia University. In New York, Olive served as President of the United Nations Association of Westchester County and on the board of the Westchester Mental Health Association.

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After moving in 1970 to the newly developed University City area of San Diego with her late husband Leon, she became a member of the University City Planning Board. As the University of California San Diego grew, the area expanded with diverse business, scientific research, and high-density residential buildings. Olive became a watchdog for good growth policies to tailor the growth of the community.

Olive Wehbring will be missed by many community members, as well as her daughter Brenda Holman of San Diego, her sons John of San Diego and Kurt of Portland, Oregon, and her five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. She will always have a special place in my heart and the hearts of many women for whom she was a role model and mentor.

EDUCATION PLAN OF PRESIDENT BUSH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support as well as concerns regarding President

Bush's education plan. The plan represents a comprehensive and broad-reaching initiative, which is expected to gain the support of both sides of the aisle and both Houses of Congress. And it deserves it. But I must raise the reality that the U.S. territories, like Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and the Northern Marianas are not even mentioned.

There is no mention in the President's proposal regarding the treatment of territories. It is not unusual that territories are often overlooked and sometimes misrepresented in the crafting of national policy. But when national policies have ambitious titles and objectives, the territories should not be overlooked.

The goal of President Bush's plan is that no child be left behind. I would like to restate that goal so that it rings clear to everyone. No child in America should be left behind. And that should include all American children no matter where they live.

I would like to emphasize the special needs of public schools in the territories, which, apart from the remoteness from the U.S. mainland, share in the same struggle to meet the basic needs of operating a school system. But due to our geography, we face special challenges in maintenance, school construction, acquisition of school supplies and equipment, recruitment and training of professionals.

In Guam, we face the additional burden of dealing with typhoons in an unforgiving tropical environment, unforgiving for buildings, that is. The people of Guam have crafted a reasonable 10-year plan for the system's infrastructure, and we look to Federal programs and unique bonding arrangements which will jump-start our effort to bring Guam schools into the 21st century.

The territories are generally included in most national programs, but only as afterthoughts and educators in Guam must follow a patchwork system of funding arrangements and frequent bureaucratic indifference in order to obtain needed and fair funding. This was the message conveyed to me in a meeting last week with Guam's top-level administrators in the Department of Education.

We also frequently try to apply national programs to our local jurisdictions which face very different and difficult circumstances. It is for this reason that territorial school systems which have a unique relationship with the Federal Government deserve special consideration and mention in the President's plan and any plan which leaves Congress.

As stated in Title VI of the President's proposal, "The Federal Government has a special obligation to certain schools that educate the children of families who serve in the U.S. military and those that educate Native

American children." This initiative to rebuild schools for Native Americans and children of military families should be extended to all territories, as all territories have a unique relationship with the Federal Government.

As an educator by training, and my mother is an educator and my wife is an educator and my daughter is an educator, I must also state a concern about the emerging nature of the accountability to mention the President's proposal. I am concerned about the overreliance of testing as the only measure of educational success. Guam schools, like many other school districts in the Nation, are struggling to meet very basic needs and have a very diverse student body and we need to account for different ways of measuring success.

I believe in standards and agree that the failure to include high standards will mean that schools will not meet designated goals. But we must think about other ways to measure the school environment than simple reliance on standardized testing, just that alone.

As a former educator, I give President Bush high marks for introducing a comprehensive educational measure at the beginning of his administration. This demonstrates his solid commitment to improve education in public schools for all American children. I know my colleagues in the territories will agree that this administration and this Congress should work in concert to move our Nation's educational agenda forward so that no child is left behind whether they live in Los Angeles or Washington, D.C., Hagatna or Yara.

I urge my fellow colleagues and President Bush to consider the special needs of U.S. territories as we work in crafting an educational plan that truly meets the needs of all Americans.

WELL WISHES TO HON. BUD SHUSTER ON HIS DEPARTURE FROM HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, this is the last day for the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), one of the most dynamic experts on transportation in the entire country. There has been no individual that has had more of an impact on transportation in Pennsylvania, in the commonwealth in his district, in my district, in the entire country.

He was an expert in the field. Even when he was in the minority, he had a tremendous impact on transportation things. He convinced the Congress and the White House that the taxes we collect for transportation ought to go to transportation; and, even against tremendous odds, he was able to win that battle.

It will be a long time before we see another person with his ability. He was a Ph.D with a Phi Beta Kappa. He was