

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO JAN BURNSIDE, OUTSTANDING COLORADO WOMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to congratulate a remarkable woman, Jan Burnside, for her devotion to her community and to the people of the State of Colorado. After experiencing the devastating loss of her only daughter to suicide, Jan has devoted her life to helping prevent suicide. For her work in this critical area, Jan Burnside is being honored as an Outstanding Colorado Woman. Jan's contributions to the citizens of Colorado are great in number and deserve the recognition of Congress. Clearly, our State is better off because of Jan's service.

Jan's work in the field of suicide prevention has been tireless. Her work with the State of Colorado has touched many hearts and saved many lives. Too often, this crisis in our culture is overlooked. But thanks to Jan, that's not the case in Colorado. Jan has been at the forefront of the administrative, legislative and social push to reduce the specter of suicide in Colorado. Guided by her own great loss, Jan has worked boldly and bravely to prevent this tragedy from scarring other families.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, Jan has shown profound courage that's an inspiration to us all. It is that inspiration that has earned her the high honor of being named Outstanding Colorado Woman. Jan is eminently deserving of this prestigious recognition.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Jan for her dedication and service to her community over the years and congratulate her on this deserved honor. She has been a tireless champion in a critically important field.

Jan, we are all proud of your work and grateful for your service!

CONGRATULATIONS TO SERGEANT JOHN JACK BRUBECK

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that Sergeant John "Jack" Brubeck, of Lexington, MO, was recently honored by the Lexington Police Department for his 20 years of outstanding service.

Sergeant Brubeck has dutifully served the Lexington community for 20 years. He has worked under several police chiefs and has received numerous accolades during the last two decades. Sergeant Brubeck has been given a commendation medal for building evi-

dence, a felony commendation medal, and a time in service commendation. Sergeant Brubeck was also recognized for his dedicated investigative work on two felony cases which resulted in the charging of a suspect.

Mr. Speaker Sergeant Brubeck has dedicated 20 years to the police force, serving with honor and distinction. As he continues to protect and serve the citizens of Lexington, I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in wishing him all the best.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROBERT SAKATA OF BRIGHTON, COLORADO

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize one of my constituents, Mr. Robert Sakata of Brighton, Colorado. This month, Mr. Sakata was awarded The Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Rosette, by the emperor of Japan for Sakata's commitment to better relations between the United States and Japan.

Mr. Sakata has played a major role as an American ambassador of goodwill. He has visited Japan to talk to corporate executives about American businesses, and to Japanese farmers about U.S. farming. He has hosted the emperor and empress of Japan at his Colorado farm. He has served on various agriculture boards, as well as the Japan America Society of Colorado.

Such patriotism is especially remarkable given the obstacles posed to Mr. Sakata early in life. The son of a truck driver, Mr. Sakata was born in California to Japanese-American parents. During World War II, he was set to an interment camp in Topaz, Utah, suffering one of American history's greatest injustices. During that time, Mr. Sakata was sponsored by a Colorado resident who put him to work on a farm near Brighton. From that point on, farming became Mr. Sakata's life.

After the war, Mr. Sakata began to farm for himself, with only 40 acres purchased on borrowed money. Today, Sakata Farms spans 3,000 acres of sweet corn, cabbage, onions and broccoli. His story is that of yet another American dream that came true because of hard work and perseverance.

I am extremely proud of Mr. Sakata. He is an extraordinary Coloradan and an outstanding American. His dedication to American-Japanese relations has made an enduring difference, especially within our agricultural community. I ask the House to join me in extending congratulations to Mr. Sakata of Colorado.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEACHER TAX CUT ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Teacher Tax Cut Act. This bill provides every teacher in America with a \$1,000 tax credit, thus raising every teacher's take-home pay without increasing federal spending. Passage of this bill is a major first step toward treating those who have dedicated their lives to educating America's children with the respect they deserve. Compared to other professionals teachers are underappreciated and underpaid. This must change if America is to have the finest education system in the world!

Quality education is impossible without quality teaching. If we want to ensure that the teaching profession attracts the very best people possible we must make sure that teachers receive the compensation they deserve. For too long now, we have seen partisan battles and displays of heightened rhetoric about who wants to provide the most assistance to education distract us from our important work of removing government-imposed barriers to educational excellence.

Since America's teachers are underpaid because they are overtaxed, the best way to raise teacher take-home pay is to reduce their taxes. Simply by raising teacher's take-home pay via a \$1,000 tax credit we can accomplish a number of important things. First, we show a true commitment to education. We also let America's teachers know that the American people and the Congress respect their work. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, by raising teacher take-home pay, the Teacher Tax Cut Act encourages highly-qualified professionals to enter, and remain in, the teaching profession.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I once again ask my colleagues to put aside partisan bickering and unite around the idea of helping educators by supporting the Teacher Tax Cut Act.

TRIBUTE TO JIM NICHOLSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize an outstanding citizen and a remarkable leader, my friend Jim Nicholson, the now former head of the Republican National Committee. Jim is being honored on January 26, 2001 in Denver, Colorado for his accomplished service as Chairman of the Republican National Committee. During

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

his tenure, Jim took the GOP to new heights. On his watch, the Republican Party took control of the White House while maintaining majorities in both the House of Representatives and the United States Senate. For his service to the party and the American people, I would now like to pay tribute to a great American and friend.

When Chairman Nicholson began as RNC chairman, the committee was \$10 million in debt. But under Chairman Nicholson's able leadership, that debt was abolished. When Jim left the RNC, it was \$15 million in the black. Along with balancing the RNC's book, Chairman Nicholson also boldly led the RNC into the Internet age, incorporating technological advances in the day-to-day affairs of the organization. The RNC collected 975,000 e-mail addresses from Republican activists during Jim's tenure, up from just 17,000 at the start of 2000.

Much of the electoral success that the GOP experienced under Jim's tutelage was due to the massive get out the vote effort created at Jim's initiative. He triggered the largest communications action in RNC history during the 2000 election cycle, in which the Party mailed over 100 million pieces of direct mail and made 60 million phone calls. This coordinated effort to get out the GOP's message was a major, if leading, cause of the Party's success in November 2000.

More importantly, the RNC also made meaningful strides under Jim's supervision in reaching out to minority communities. Due in large measure to Jim's efforts in this critical area, President Bush earned the highest percentage of Hispanic votes of any Republican Presidential candidate in history. Jim's success in this regard leaves a solid foundation for the Party to build on in the coming weeks, months and years. This is a legacy that Jim can, and should take great pride in!

As has been well documented, Jim's yeoman's work as Chairman of the Republican Party was the continuation of a life-long commitment to serving his country. As you know, Mr. Speaker, Jim fought bravely and with great distinction during the Vietnam War, earning numerous awards and commendations.

Throughout his life, Jim has devoted himself to the cause of his country. In doing so, he has distinguished himself mightily. As Jim leaves the GOP Chairmanship and moves on to new pursuits, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank him for his remarkable work. In my opinion, Jim will long be remembered as one of the most skilled, most effective and most accomplished leaders in the storied history of the GOP. For this service, we are all grateful.

REPEAL THE NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, on the first day of the 107th Congress, I introduced legislation, H.R. 189, to repeal the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, the "motor voter" bill.

The motor voter law, which was championed by the Clinton Administration, took ef-

fect in most states on January 1, 1995. It requires states to allow citizens to register to vote by mail, when applying for a driver's license and at certain public assistance agencies. Although motor voter's supporters touted the measure as a way to increase voter turnout by simplifying voter registration, the law has done very little to invigorate election interest. To the contrary, it has devalued voter registration and given citizens good reason to question the integrity of their vote.

It is interesting to note that in 1992, President Bush vetoed motor voter legislation stating it amounted to an "open invitation to fraud and corruption." His words could not have been more prophetic. Since the law's implementation, numerous incidents of illegal voting have surfaced. In fact, motor voter could be responsible for inviting millions of non-citizens and illegal aliens to register to vote.

Motor voter has also created numerous administrative headaches for local election officials and has made the process of purging inactive voters far more cumbersome. It inhibits their ability to remove "dead wood" from their rolls by requiring them to keep registrants who fail to vote or who are unresponsive to voter registration correspondence to be maintained on the voter rolls for years. Motor voter is also responsible for numerous election-related glitches. In many jurisdictions, voters who thought they registered to vote when applying for a driver's license, found they were not registered when they went to the polls to cast their ballots. As noteworthy, in Durham county, North Carolina, the law created an odd statistical glitch. In 1999, the number of registered voters in the county surpassed the number of residents old enough to vote.

Mr. Speaker, motor voter is unreasonable and overzealous. There is no need for this unyielding federal presence in voter registration. The states carry the responsibility for administering all elections and should be able to do so unfettered by unnecessary and burdensome federal intervention.

Mr. Speaker, previous efforts to repeal motor voter has been unsuccessful, largely because of President Clinton's position. Under the Bush Administration, I believe we now have an opportunity to move forward with this important reform and reinstate confidence and integrity in our electoral system. I respectfully urge my colleagues to join me in re-establishing the rights of the states and local jurisdictions to administer voting programs that work best for them by cosponsoring H.R. 189.

THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES CHILD CARE ACT, H.R. 251

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Federal Employees Child Care Act, H.R. 251 which will improve the quality of federal child care facilities throughout the country.

I was first introduced to the horrors of inadequate day care by former constituents, Mark and Julie Fiedelholz of Pembroke Pines, Florida. Mr. Fiedelholz asked for my help after the

tragic death of his 3 month old son, Jeremy. Left at a day care center for merely two hours, little Jeremy died as a result of deplorable conditions, unqualified personnel and the blatant lack of respect for the laws intended to protect our children. Although this horrifying situation did not take place in a federal center, the need for clean, safe and quality conditions for our children has to be ensured in every child care center throughout our Nation.

Because many of these child care facilities are housed in federal buildings, state and local authorities have little or no jurisdiction regarding health, fire and safety codes. This Act requires all federal centers to be responsible for maintaining these basic regulations. With over one thousand federally owned or operated child care centers in the United States capable of accommodating 200,000 children, this legislation is essential.

After conferring with representatives from various federal agencies, I learned that many federal centers, such as the facilities operated by GSA, follow their own standards which in most instances are higher than most states. I want to stress that it is not the intention of this bill to lower any federal agency standards, should they be greater than the state or local regulations. Instead, we are looking to raise the standards of those federal centers across the country whose standards fall below state and local codes and hold them accountable for failure to do so. This bill does not allow state or local law enforcement officials to enter federal facilities to perform checks of any kind unless GSA agrees to it. This option is left entirely up to the discretion of GSA and is not mandated by this bill.

This legislation includes language which will help GSA in its quest to provide a more comprehensive day care plan, by allowing GSA to expand its child care services to more children allowing its centers to join into a consortium of private businesses and health care providers. This provision will enable agencies to partner with external organizations, to conduct pilot programs and to search for new methods of providing child care assistance to federal employees.

Our children are so important and the care they receive during their first 5 years of development are essential to raising intelligent and productive members of society. This legislation can be a great first step in ensuring the positive development and growth of our children. Accordingly, I look forward to working with my colleagues on additional child care measures.

IN MEMORY OF CLARENCE "SONNY" KENNER

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to pay tribute to an American Jazz legend, Mr. Clarence "Sonny" Kenner. Regrettably, Mr. Kenner died earlier this month, but his inspiring music will live on for generations to come.

His standing room only celebration in Kansas City January 29 began with a two hour