

celebrates her 50th birthday. Barbara Bass Bakar is a leader in our community whose commitment to quality health care, education, and the performing arts has greatly benefited our city. It is my honor to commend and thank her for her work.

Barbara has actively worked to promote better health care. Her efforts on behalf of the University of California, San Francisco's (UCSF) programs in the areas of cancer science and patient care have made a difference in many people's lives. She serves on the UCSF Board of Directors and helped to create the UCSF Foundation Wellness Lecture Series and the Raising Hope benefit series. With her husband, Gerson, she established the Gerson and Barbara Bass Bakar Distinguished Professor of Cancer Biology at UCSF's Cancer Research Institute.

Barbara's commitment to education is exemplified by her contributions to the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCF) Foundation, Inc. She has volunteered her time for many years on the Board of Directors of the ARCF Foundation and has been instrumental in their success at promoting science education in the U.S. through graduate scholarships.

In the arts community, Barbara is highly regarded for her service on the Board of the American Conservatory Theater. She has served on the Executive and Finance Committees of this resident professional theater. Barbara has also donated her time to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, including as a member of the Accessions Committee, and to the endowment committee of the Jewish Community Endowment Fund.

All of Barbara's contributions to our community life are in addition to her remarkable career in the business world. After successful tenures with Bloomingdales, Macy's California, and Burdines, she rose to the post of President and CEO of Emporium and Weinstocks. Prior to that, she served as Chair and CEO of I. Magnin. She also sits on the Board of Directors of the Bombay Company and the DFS Group Ltd. and DFS Holdings Ltd.

San Francisco is fortunate to count Barbara Bass Bakar among its residents as she continues to direct her considerable talents and energies toward improving our world. It is my honor to thank her and to join her husband, Gerson, in wishing her a Happy Birthday.

IN MEMORY OF RALPH LAIRD, JR.

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 3, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who affected the lives of many during his career in public education and his community activities, Ralph Laird, Jr. Mr. Laird passed away on October 24 in Walnut Creek, California, after a long illness.

Ralph Laird, Jr., was born in Danville, Illinois on March 23, 1924. He graduated from Danville High School in 1942, served in an Army unit under the overall command of General George Patton in World War II, and re-

turned to the United States to attend the University of South Dakota under the G.I. Bill. Graduating in 1949, and later receiving his Masters Degree in Education from San Francisco State University, Mr. Laird was the only one of his brothers and sister to receive an education past the eighth grade.

Mr. Laird worked for nineteen years at John Swett High School in Crockett, California. It was here that he began an incredible career in education working as a teacher, coach, Vice Principal and, for the last five years of his service there, as Principal. He was the coach of the 1959 championship John Swett basketball team, the first such championship for the school in decades, and also participated in community activities as a manager of an East Vallejo Little League team, camp director for the Vallejo YMCA, and a father in the Indian Guides program.

Mr. Laird was the first principal of San Dimas High School in San Dimas, California, and later was principal of Amador High School in Pleasanton, California. He ended his career in education as Assistant Superintendent of the Amador School District, but remained active as a leader in the SIRS organization and was a member of the Pleasanton Library Board.

In his life, he was committed to helping every person rise to their full potential. In all his school positions, he served as a mentor, worked extra hours, supported new teachers, and stayed in touch with many students with whom he had worked during his thirty-five years in education. His dedication to public service in its most pure form—the education and nurturing of our children—is an example for all of us to strive for.

Beyond his professional life, Ralph Laird was also well known for his ability to tell a story or a joke on almost any subject. His obituary stated, "He never met a pun he didn't like." He brightened any room he walked into, and was the patriarch of a wonderful family. He will be sorely missed not just by his community, but by his family—including his wife of 54 years, Dorothy; his sons, John, James and Thomas; and three grandchildren. All those touched by him during his life will miss his friendship, leadership, good humor, and guidance.

REGARDING THE RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE IMPOSITION OF CRIMINAL LIABILITY ON INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS BASED ON THE ACTIONS OF THEIR USERS

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 3, 2001

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, as the Internet has grown in importance to our economy and our culture, Congress has considered a succession of bills addressing unsavory conduct on the Internet. While many of these proposals have been well-intentioned, they have proposed widely differing, sometimes technologically unrealistic, or unconstitutional approaches to this important issue.

The Internet offers Americans an unprecedented avenue for communication and commerce, changing the way we work, play, shop, and communicate. This phenomenon, referred to by the United States Supreme Court as the "vast democratic fora of the Internet" can be attributed chiefly to the policy embraced by the House in an amendment to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 offered by my distinguished colleagues CHRIS COX and RON WYDEN, and that I was pleased to support.

The Cox-Wyden amendment ensures that Internet service providers, website hosts, portals, search engines, directories and others are not burdened by the threat of civil tort liability for content created or developed by others. This measure has provided welcome certainty and uniformity with regard to civil tort liability on the Internet, while in no way limiting remedies against the provider of illegal content.

However, criminal bills continue to take widely varying and often quite different approaches to this issue. In addition, foreign nations and courts in Europe and Asia are stepping up efforts to hold U.S. companies liable for website content located in the United States that is criminal under their laws, but entirely lawful under our First Amendment. There is even a Cyber-crime Treaty that the Clinton Administration has been negotiating with countries that are part of the Council of Europe that could restrict Congress' ability to legislate in this area if we do not act soon.

For these reasons, I believe that the 107th Congress must act to preserve strong criminal penalties against criminals on the Internet, while creating a uniform and sensible structure limiting service providers' liability for content that third parties have stored or placed on their systems, but that may violate some criminal law. Given the importance of U.S. global leadership in the Internet industry, and of keeping the Internet open so that individuals can communicate and do business with one another, we cannot afford to cede the initiative or authority in this important area.

ON RE-INTRODUCTION OF THE NOTIFICATION AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEE ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION ACT

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 3, 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today I am making good on a promise I made during the last days of the previous Congress. During a press conference on October 24th last year announcing the introduction of H.R. 5516, the Notification and Federal Employee Anti-discrimination And Retaliation Act (the No FEAR Act) of 2000, I pledged to reintroduce this legislation on the first day of the 107th Congress. That day has arrived. I am pleased to introduce the No FEAR Act of 2001.

During that press conference, a spokesman for the NAACP noted the NAACP Task Force on Federal Sector Discrimination and other civil rights organizations are supporting this legislation. It was hailed as the first civil rights