

standing problem. Cyprus is set for accession to the European Union in 2004, and I am hopeful that this reality will act as a catalyst for a lasting solution of the Cyprus problem.

EU membership for Cyprus will clearly provide important economic, political, and social benefits for all Cypriots, both Greek and Turkish alike. This is why both sides must return to the negotiating table without any conditions. There is also a new climate of cooperation between Turkey's Ismail Cem and Greece's George Pappandreou is a positive sign. More has been achieved in a year than what has been achieved in the past 40 years, but his cooperation needs to extend to the resolution of the Cyprus occupation. While the U.S., the EU, Greece and Cyprus have all acted to accommodate Turkish concerns, however, it remains to be seen whether Turkey will put pressure on Rauf Denkash to bargain in good faith. And make no mistake about it, if Turkey wants the Cyprus problem resolved, it will not let Denkash stand in the way.

Now is the time for a solution to the Cyprus problem. It will take diligent work by both sides, but with U.S. support and leadership, I am very hopeful that we will reach a peaceful and fair solution soon. Twenty-seven years is too long to have a country divided. It is too long to be kept from your home. It is too long to be separated from family. We have seen many tremendous changes around the world in the last several years; it is now time to add Cyprus to the list of places where peace and freedom have triumphed.

IN HONOR OF BISHOP MARTIN  
JOHN AMOS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 20, 2001*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Bishop Martin John Amos. He was made a Bishop in the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist in Cleveland, Ohio on June 7, 2001. His tremendous faith and giving nature have brought hope and joy to many lives.

Son of William and Mary Amos, Bishop Amos's life began on December 8, 1941 in Cleveland. After graduating from James Ford Rhodes High School, he attended Borromeo Seminary in Wickliffe and St. Mary Seminary in Cleveland. Following this period of spiritual growth and learning, Bishop Amos was ordained on May 25, 1968 in St. John Bosco Parish of Parma Heights, Ohio.

Thirty-three years later, Bishop Amos was ordained as Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland and Titular Bishop of Meta on June 7, 2001 in the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist. In the interim, he served many distinguished roles in the Catholic Church in the Cleveland area. He was Assistant or Associate Pastor at various churches and served as an instructor and Assistant Principal at Borromeo Seminary High School. Friends, I am sure that you will agree that there are few honors greater than that of teaching. Bishop Amos has most recently held the position of Pastor at St. Dominic Parish in Shaker Heights for the past sixteen years.

My distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring this outstanding citizen of Ohio.

His spiritual leadership throughout his life will serve him well as a Bishop.

TRIBUTE TO TRINITY SENIOR,  
AMANDA RIVAL, NCAA DIVISION  
III HEPTATHLON CHAMPION

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 20, 2001*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Trinity College senior Amanda Rival of Berlin, Connecticut. On May 25, 2001, Rival won the heptathlon in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships, Rival won with 4,603 points, edging out the competition by 24 points.

This is the latest, and perhaps the most prestigious award that Amanda Rival has received in the years that she has dedicated to athletics. As a student at Berlin High School, she won numerous state titles and set many school records. She also concluded her successful youth career, by winning the Connecticut High School State Open in the long jump and high jump events.

Amanda Rival continued her success in the track and field arena throughout her college years. In indoor track, she was a four time All-New England pentathlete, a three time All-Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) selection, and the winner of the New England Pentathlon Championship title for the past three years. Amanda was also extremely successful in outdoor track. She was a three time All-New England selection, a two time All-NESCAC selection, and an All-ECAC member in 1999. Amanda Rival also competed well enough to earn All-American honors in 1999. This year, Rival recorded the team's season best results in the shot put, long jump, high jump, javelin, 100-meter high hurdles and the 200-meter dash.

In addition to her many athletic achievements, Amanda Rival has also thrived as a student at Trinity College. She was acknowledged for her success as a student-athlete by receiving the prestigious Trinity Club of Hartford award this year. Amanda also received Trinity's award for architecture for her academic achievements in that field of study. Amanda Rival graduated from Trinity College this past spring with a 3.0 G.P.A.

I commend Amanda Rival for the determination and dedication she has shown throughout her life as a student-athlete. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing her nothing but the best of luck in the next chapter of her life, as I am sure she will continue to maintain a strong work ethic throughout her life.

SUPPORT OF THE PATIENT BILL  
OF RIGHTS IN ORDER TO IM-  
PROVE QUALITY OF HEALTH  
CARE FOR HISPANICS

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 20, 2001*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, every American is concerned with good health and accessing quality health care. However, far too many Americans including many Hispanics do not have adequate health care options. When Health Maintenance Organizations, HMOs, were first introduced, they were promoted as cost-saving revolutions in preventative health care. However, what subscribers did not anticipate is that their health care options would be restricted. It is dangerous for health related decisions to be taken away from doctors and health care professionals and assigned to HMOs, insurance companies, and corporate bureaucrats.

With 37 percent of the Hispanic population lacking health insurance, access is a huge issue. However, access to coverage does not always translate into access to quality health care. Many Latinos with health insurance experience numerous barriers to quality health care. Anyone who deals with the bureaucracy of managed care plans knows that it is daunting; for those with limited English skills, it is overwhelming. Two-thirds of privately-insured Latinos are enrolled in managed care, while only about half of privately-insured Whites are in managed care. Hispanics are thus, more likely to be the victim of care delayed, or more even disturbing, care denied. In addition, Hispanics are more likely to have limited provider options and limited treatment options.

We must enact patient protections for all Americans in managed care plans. In so doing, we are not only protecting Hispanics, but all Americans. We must pass the bipartisan Patients' Bill of Rights and return medical decision to patients and their doctors.

Again, I encourage my colleagues to support this important legislation.

AARP CRITICIZES BUSH SOCIAL  
SECURITY PRIVATIZATION PLAN

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 20, 2001*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, Next week, the President's handpicked Social Security Commission will issue an interim report, a version of which is already circulating among Commission members, the media and Social Security experts.

It is disappointing, but far from unexpected, that the interim report is attempting to "spin" the American public by claiming that there is a "crisis" in Social Security. The Commission and the Bush Administration are laying the groundwork for next fall's final report, which will call for privatization and individual retirement accounts.

Privatizers are trying to claim that the sky is falling—the only way that they can justify the drastic changes that they are proposing. But the facts are different. Even without any changes, Social Security will be able to pay full benefits through 2038 and, after that, it will be able to pay 73 percent of benefits. Moderate changes are needed but not a privatization plan that will take \$1 trillion out of the Trust Fund and reduce future benefits by up to 54 percent. It's also reasonable to ask President why, if he thinks the situation is so dire, he decided to give a \$1.7 trillion tax break, the majority of which goes to the wealthiest Americans, before taking steps to protect Social Security.

I want to draw my colleagues' attention to a statement by AARP on the interim plan, which I think says it best: the Commission is out of the "mainstream" and the interim report is just a "public relations" ploy to undermine the basic guarantee of Social Security that will lead to "a dramatic overhaul of Social Security that would lead to cuts in guaranteed benefits and shift financial risk to individuals."

STATEMENT BY AARP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAM D. NOVELLI ON THE DRAFT INTERIM SOCIAL SECURITY COMMISSION REPORT

WASHINGTON, July 19.—The following is a statement by AARP Executive Director William D. Novelli on the Draft Interim Social Security Commission Report:

The President's Social Security Commission continues to work toward a predetermined outcome—a dramatic overhaul of Social Security that would lead to cuts in guaranteed benefits and shift financial risk to individuals.

Today's draft interim report puts forward a fundamentally flawed and biased view of the nature and purpose of Social Security. It implies that the program is riskier than private investment. It recycles old alarmist arguments that portray the financial shape of Social Security in the worst possible light. The rhetoric in the report demonstrates how far outside the mainstream the Commission appears to be headed, referring to Social Security as a "novelty" and calling the system "broken."

The draft report lays the public relations groundwork for a campaign to change the fundamental nature of Social Security. It argues for turning Social Security into a system of wealth-building. But Social Security was designed to provide income protection and a floor of financial security. For many, especially women and minorities, Social Security is the only income-protection they will have, providing them with a lifetime, guaranteed benefit that is adjusted annually for inflation. The report ignores the fact that other vehicles currently exist for wealth-building through personal savings and employer provided pensions.

Individual accounts do not address Social Security's long-term financing issues. Add-on accounts—which have merit—can add value on top of Social Security, but taking money from workers' Social Security contributions to fund new private accounts only worsens Social Security's ability to pay today's retirees and advances the date of insolvency.

Social Security is the bedrock of our nation's income security system. To preserve this benefit for future generations, the Commission should focus on all potential options and tradeoffs, rather than a narrow and fundamental restructuring of the program. The sooner the nation begins to address the pro-

gram's long-term financing needs, the more moderate the changes that are needed and the more time provided for those affected to adjust their plans.

#### INTERNET GAMBLING PAYMENTS PROHIBITION ACT

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 20, 2001

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, two years have passed since the Congressional-mandated National Gambling Impact Study Commission released its final report on gambling in the United States. A major recommendation of the report, adopted unanimously by the Commission, was a Federal prohibition on Internet gambling. The Commission determined that the traditional approach of state regulation of gambling was inadequate to address the problem of Internet gambling and that Federal legislation was needed.

The bill I am introducing today, the "Internet Gambling Payment Prohibition Act," seeks to implement this important Commission recommendation. However, it does not propose an outright prohibition of Internet gambling, since outright prohibition presents significant technical and enforcement difficulties. Instead, the bill would restrict the electronic payments that permit online betting and, thus, make Internet gambling possible. Regulation of electronic payment transfers and the most traditional check clearance system are Federal responsibilities that, in my view, offer the most effective means to address the unique challenges of Internet gambling.

Any American with a computer and a credit card can find numerous opportunities for high stakes gambling on the Internet. The number of Internet gambling sites has grown geometrically in recent years. The Internet Gaming Council has identified some 1,400 web sites that entice people to engage in some form of gambling. The typical Internet gambling site or virtual casino operates from locations outside the United States, in places such as Antigua or the Netherlands Antilles that impose little regulatory scrutiny other than collecting licensing fees. And Internet gambling is proving to be extremely lucrative for both site operators and their host countries. Between 1999 and 2001, combined annual revenues received by Internet gambling sites nearly tripled, from \$1.3 billion to \$3.1 billion. Industry experts expect annual revenues to double to more than \$6 billion by 2003.

The problems presented by these lucrative and poorly regulated Internet gambling operations are numerous. There is no meaningful way to limit participation in gambling by adolescents or by problem gamblers. There is no assurance as to the integrity of the web site operators or the honesty of their games. There are little or no protections against security breaches, hacking, diversion of credit card payments or identity theft. And there is a strong chance that many off-shore gambling operations will be used as part of money laundering and other criminal operations.

Perhaps my greatest concern with Internet gambling is the fact that the problems created

by compulsive gambling, which in the past were largely localized to areas with legal gambling, will be experience almost anywhere, but without any added public revenues to help address these problems. The National Commission identified a very strong correlation between the availability of high stakes gambling opportunities and the incidence of problem or pathological gambling. Current estimates of compulsive gamblers range from 1.5% of the adult population to over 5%, depending on the amount of legal gambling in the state. Add to this another 15 million people which the Commission identified as also being at risk at any time of becoming addicted gamblers, the potential universe of problem gamblers is significant. Psychologist estimate that more than 5 percent of people develop a gambling problem at some time, twice the rate of cocaine or other serious drug addiction.

Like alcoholism or any other addiction, the problems of compulsive gambling are not limited to individual gamblers, but affect entire families and communities. At a minimum, compulsive gambling leads to severe indebtedness and often bankruptcy. By the time most problem gamblers seek help they have debts exceeding \$120,000 and their families are in shambles. Compulsive gamblers have a high incidence of broken families and lost homes, poor work productivity and job terminations, health problem and related alcohol or drug addiction. Most alarming is the high suicide rate among problem gamblers. The New York Times reported in 1999 that more than 80 percent of compulsive gamblers seriously consider suicide and nearly 20 percent attempt or succeed in killing themselves. This is considerably higher than the suicide rate for major depression.

With the Internet rapidly expanding access to high-stakes gambling, the number of compulsive and pathological gamblers can only increase. This poses a serious problem for our nation's youth. A number of factors converge to make today's adolescents particularly vulnerable to the lure of Internet gambling. Today's teenagers are far more experienced and comfortable with computers than many of their parents. They have grown up playing a wide variety of video and computer games. Most have broad access to the Internet. And large numbers of adolescents now have access to some form of credit, debit or stored value cards to make on-line bets. Banks and credit card companies have aggressively marketed credit cards on college campuses for years and have recently initiated new programs to market stored-value cards to high school aged youth.

While youth involvement in sports betting and other forms of gambling has increased in recent years, the heightened accessibility of Internet gambling, the ability to gamble in private and the ability to gamble with credit cards all place teenagers at greater risk. A young person sitting alone at home or in a college dormitory can gain access to hundreds of gambling sites and can easily run up the credit line on their own or their parent's credit cards on games that appear little different than the computer card games they have played for years. What seems an easy opportunity to win a big jackpot could result in financial losses that could harm their families and destroy their future plans.