July 20, 2001

The issue Congress must address is how we can protect our nation’s youth from the growing availability and potential negative consequences of Internet gambling. To me, the answer is simple. We cut off Internet gambling at its source by prohibiting the primary payment vehicles that make on-line betting possible. My legislation, the “Internet Gambling Payment Prohibitions Act,” would prohibit known Internet gambling sites from accepting any check, credit card, debit card or other form of electronic transfer as payment of any bet or wager over the Internet. The effect of this prohibition is to deny known Internet gambling sites from being approved for credit card, debit and other electronic transfer accounts. While liability for accepting prohibited payments would be on Internet site operators, credit card issuers, banks and money transmitting services would also be liable if it is determined that they knowingly participated in transferring payments to known Internet gambling operations. The benefit of this approach is that it is equally effective in denying payment of whether they are based within a state of half way around the world.

Other bills have been introduced that propose to prohibit payments only to “unlawful” Internet gambling operations. While this approach may be appealing politically, it is of little practical benefit. The open and unrestricted nature of the world wide web makes distinctions between legal or unlawful gambling extremely difficult, if not impossible. We cannot distinguish with any certainty the location of most Internet gambling sites, nor the location of persons attempting to access these sites. If Internet gambling is legal anywhere in the world, it will be available to people everywhere in the world. Proposals that only restrict payments to “unlawful” Internet gambling sites would, in effect represent an actual expansion of legalized gambling under Federal law. For once the Internet gambling is sanctioned in any jurisdiction, domestic or international, the restrictions on electronic funds transfer would be inoperable. We would, in effect, be legally sanctioning such gambling—the exact opposite of what we pretend to do.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the bill I am offering today provides the only effective approach for prohibiting Internet gambling and eliminating its potentially disastrous consequences for millions of American families. I urge adoption of this needed legislation.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 1954
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, July 20, 2001

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1954 which extends the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act until 2006. I have previously co-sponsored similar legislation and remain an advocate of trade sanctions on Iran and Libya. I look forward to the President’s report in 18 months on the effectiveness of these actions. I am also extremely interested in examining the impact of this law on humanitarian interests and on national security, foreign policy, and the economic interests of the United States. Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to affirm my strong support of H.R. 1954 to extend the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act for an additional 5 years and look forward to its favorable consideration by this body.

IN RECOGNITION OF TIMOTHY JOHN LYNCH, SR.
HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, July 20, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California and myself would like to take this time to remember the passing and celebrate the life of a very special man, Timothy John Lynch, Senior. His memory will be honored this weekend, when a memorial redwood and plaque will be dedicated to him at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Pleasant Hill Parks and Recreation District.

Born July 20, 1917 in San Francisco to Irish immigrant parents, Timothy grew up in the Irish Castro District of the City. He left his home state during World War II and served as captain and bombardier instructor in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was married for 57 years to Mary-Louise Leach, and was the proud father of seven children, eighteen grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

In 1950, Timothy moved his family from San Francisco to Pleasant Hill, California. During that very same year, he helped to build a community fit for his family and friends. He realized the need for a community park and worked alongside two other Pleasant Hill citizens to help raise funds to purchase the original land known today as the Pleasant Hill Park. Active in the Catholic Church his entire life, he also helped to establish Christ the King Catholic Parish, which is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year.

Shortly after settling in Pleasant Hill, Timothy served as a member and chairman of the Founding Board. He was elected and re-elected to serve on the board of trustees for the Pleasant Hill Parks & Recreation Department. Appointed to the Contra Costa Planning Commission, he made history as the first to represent the area that would later become the City of Pleasant Hill. Timothy also made efforts to contribute to education. He served as a member on both the President’s Advisory Council and the College President’s Fundraising Committee at St. Mary’s College of California.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF
HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, July 20, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2506) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I am submitting the following letter that I received from the U.S. Agency for International Development in response to my amendment on HIV/AIDS in the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, 2001.

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting a copy of a recent report to Congress on the U.S. Agency for International Development’s efforts to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS. It describes the vital role of mother-to-child transmission prevention activities and the complex issues that must be addressed as we and others expand our efforts in this important area.

Thank you for your interest in these programs.

Sincerely,
ROBERT M. LESTER,
Acting Deputy Asst. Administrator,
Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs.
Enclosure: a/s.