EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

JOE MOAKLEY’S LEGACY

HON. BARNEY FRANK
OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2001

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, there have under-
standably been a large number of tributes to
our late colleague, Joe Moakley, who so well
exemplified the best qualities of a representa-
tive of the people. One of them in particular
had special meaning to me.

Among the issues for which he fought so
hard were those affecting the right of older
people to live their lives in some degree of
comfort and security. The most recent issue of
The Older American, published in Boston by the
Massachusetts Association of Older Americans,
is dedicated to Joe and contains a num-
ber of articles describing his great work in that
field. I ask that the article by the MAOA Presi-
dent Emeritus, Elsie Frank, recalling the
speech Joe made 3 years ago at her 85th
birthday celebration be printed here, as an
example of the impact he had. I am proud to
share with my colleagues my Mother’s excel-
ent summary of the qualities that made Joe
Moakley so important to so many of us.

[From The Older American, July 2001]

JOE MOAKLEY
(By Elsie Frank)

My friend, Joe Moakley, was not a grand-
stander but a public official who was dedi-
cated to public service. He took his respon-
sibilities as a Congressman seriously; he was
committed to social justice—to equality and
respect for human dignity, and to the propo-
sition that private interests shall not prevail
over the public good. He wanted a society
that is caring, just and fair to all—young and
old alike.

Part of Joe’s greatness was his ability to
make everyone feel special—like I felt when
he spoke at my 85th birthday party.

Joe agreed with historian Arnold Toynbee
that a society’s quality and durability can best
be measured “by the respect and care
given to its elderly citizens” and fought to
preserve the most important factors in the
life of an older American—health care, eco-
nomic security and housing. He led the Mas-
sachusetts Congressional delegation in their
efforts to ward off impending disaster for el-
derly programs because of the notorious Con-
tract With America crafted by Newt Ging-
rich. He would not let them abandon senior
centers, meal sites, meals-on-wheels; he
fought their efforts to privatize Social Secu-
rity; he fought to thwart New Gingrich’s
stated desire to see Medicare “wither on the
vine.”

Although no one would argue that society
can shield every individual from problems
that need to be solved, Joe Moakley open-
handedly offered his help to others, often
frustrated with a feeling of helplessness, and
hopelessness. To him helping others was not
frustrated with a feeling of helplessness, and
that need to be solved, Joe Moakley open-
"vine.”

stated desire to see medicare “wither on the

centers, meal sites, meals-on-wheels; he
rich. He would not let them abolish senior
life of an older American—health care, eco-

best be measured “by the respect and care
that a society’s quality and durability can

respect for human dignity, and to the propo-
sition committed to social justice—to equality and

sibilities as a Congressman seriously; he was
committed to social justice—to equality and

for the record rates of bankruptcy filings in Nebraska and
l

Lenders Share the Blame

HON. DOUG BEREUTER
OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member
encourages his colleagues to read the fol-
lowing editorial, from the June 27, 2001, edi-
tion of the Omaha World Herald. This editorial
takes the position that both debtors and lend-
ers of credit are responsible for the record
rates of bankruptcy filings in Nebraska and
Iowa.

Lenders Share the Blame

Nebraskans and Iowans are filing for
personal bankruptcy at a higher rate than ever
before, a fact that has roots not only in un-
wise personal spending but also in the explo-

tion of easy credit available in recent years.

By his desire to make a difference in the
personal bankruptcy at a higher rate than ever
before, a fact that has roots not only in un-
wise personal spending but also in the explo-

Nationally, personal debt is at an all-time
high. Americans put a trillion dollars on
their credit cards last year. The Federal Re-
serve reports that 90 percent of those owed on
credit cards, auto loans and similar con-
sumer-type loans rose to $1.58 trillion in
April. Americans spend 14 percent of their
take-home pay paying off these debts.

In Nebraska, 33 percent more bankruptcies
were filed during the first five months of the
year compared with 2000. The rate in Iowa
increased significantly, too. Many factors
have contributed to the increase in bank-
rkure at a higher rate than ever
before, a fact that has roots not only in un-
wise personal spending but also in the explo-

were filed during the first five months of the
year compared with 2000. The rate in Iowa
increased significantly, too. Many factors
have contributed to the increase in bank-
ruptcy, the credit industry, bears a portion of
the blame, the credit industry, bears a portion of
the blame, the credit industry, bears a portion of
the blame, the credit industry, bears a portion of
the blame, the credit industry, bears a portion of
the blame, the credit industry, bears a portion of
the blame, the credit industry, bears a portion of
the blame, the credit industry, bears a portion of
the blame.

There are far too many gullible souls in
this country who, for whatever reason, don’t
have enough financial sense or self-discipline
to use credit cards wisely. They fall into the
trap set by the banks that issue credit cards.
The temptation for instant satisfac-
tion overcomes some people. Their dif-
ficulties are, ultimately, their own fault.

Nevertheless, lenders shouldn’t be exploit-
ting the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-
erable, the vulnerable, the vulnerable, the vul-

Mr. Speaker, good
morning. I am pleased to be here today to in-
troduce legislation that will facilitate dialog on
a key issue facing the Northwest.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SALMON PLANNING ACT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT
OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2001

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, good
morning. I am pleased to be here today to in-
troduce legislation that will facilitate dialog on
a key issue facing the Northwest.
I want to begin today with a quote from Chief Joseph, a man who lived in northeastern Oregon and traveled the lands of the Columbia River Basin:

"The Earth was created by the assistance of the sun, and it should be left as it was... I never said the land was mine to do with it as I chose. I am the one who has the right to use it, not the one who has created it. I claim a right to live on my land, and accord you the privilege to live on yours.

This legislation is called the Salmon Planning Act. It provides for the planning that will be necessary to save the endangered salmon and steelhead populations in the Snake River if the Bush administration continues to deny funding to recovery efforts.

For centuries, salmon has been recognized as a symbol of the Northwest lifestyle and a mainstay of the economy. Both commercial fishermen and the sport fishing industry rely on consistent runs of salmon and steelhead. Generations of northwesterners have grown up with fishing as a part of their lives.

Beginning in the early 1960s, a series of 4 dams were constructed on the Lower Snake River. The dams provided energy, water for irrigation, and a barge system for transporting goods between the inland and ocean ports. Since then, the 12 genetically distinct populations of salmon and steelhead, native to the Snake River, have dropped to such an extent that every one of those populations is either functionally extinct or listed under the endangered Species Act.

Scientific studies have shown that declining salmon runs represent the declining health of the overall ecosystem in the Columbia and Snake River basin. Independent studies by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Fish and Wildlife Service have shown an ecosystem in peril.

Additionally, numerous treaties with Native Tribes in Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and the Canadian Government have committed our government to ensuring the continued viability of salmon runs. Failure to do so could expose taxpayers to billions of dollars in litigation and compensatory fees.

Last year the National Marine Fisheries Service released a biological opinion regarding the Columbia and Snake River basin. Independent studies by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Fish and Wildlife Service have shown an ecosystem in peril.

IT IS TIME FOR CONGRESS TO SPEAK UP

HON. AICEE L. HASTINGS
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 23, 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House of Representatives attempted to consider campaign finance reform. While the House ultimately decided not to consider the legislation because of a ridiculous rule, it is significant that campaign finance reform has come to the floor for a vote before election reform has even been debated. I was the first to point out that it does not matter how much money we spend on our campaigns, or for that matter, how much money we do not spend on our campaigns, if votes still do not count.

It is clear to me that after last year’s farce of an election, in which it was discovered that thousands of Americans nationwide had their right to vote stripped from them, Congress would have acted by now. But Congress has not acted.

Congress remained silent when the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights released its findings that minority voters were more likely to have their votes thrown out than non-minority voters. Congress remained silent when thousands of voters testified to civil rights groups such as the NAACP, the National Council of La Raza, the ACLU, and this Committee, discussing the many problems they faced at the polls last November. Congress still remains silent, while Americans become more cynical by the day.

The debate that needs to commence is not on how much money we spend on our campaigns. Instead, the debate should focus on how much money we are not spending on our elections. My home county, Broward County, may not purchase the best voting machines on the market because it cannot afford it. We need to be talking about how to get Broward County, and every other county in this country, the needed funds to improve their election systems.

Mr. Speaker, contrary to what many argue, the need for election reform is much more than a civil rights issue. Rather, the need for election reform is a challenge to our democracy. It is a challenge that calls on us to reaffirm our commitment to the principles and ideals that our country’s founders died defending. It is a challenge that burns at the heart of every American who believes in our country’s democratic heritage. It is a challenge that we cannot back down from, and it is a challenge that we will not back down from. Finally, it is a challenge that must be overcome before history repeats itself.

TRIBUTE TO THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

HON. JIM SAXTON
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 23, 2001

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding organization. The responsibilities of this highly regarded, but little known agency cover the waterfront, from counterintelligence to criminal investigations, from force protection to infrastructure protection. They are the protectors of our protectors.

I am referring to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS)—on watch to protect and serve sailors, Marines, and their families, wherever they may be, whether it’s Chicago, Illinois; Split, Croatia; or a ship in the Persian Gulf.

Recently, the outstanding efforts of the NCIS were highlighted in a case that has hit very close to home for those of us who live and work in the Washington, DC, area. A Navy sailor, a rising star, a beloved daughter, Lea Brown was abruptly taken from our midst in a vicious killing in Fort Washington.

The Washington, DC, Field Office of the NCIS dedicated over 30 agents to the case, developing leads within hours that led to the arrest of several suspects by the Prince George’s County Police. The clear message to criminals preying on sailors and Marines is, “You will be caught; you will be brought to justice.” I know that I join the men and women of the naval service, as well as those of Prince Georges County, Maryland, in expressing my thanks for the tireless efforts of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to enclose this article from the Washington Times and submit my congratulations to the men and women of NCIS for a job well done.

[From the Washington Times, July 7, 2001]

NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE WORKS FAST WITH OTHER AGENCIES

(By Brian DeBose)

The Washington Field Office of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) is no stranger to working with local and federal police agencies.

Most recently NCIS, the criminal investigation arm of the U.S. Navy, is working with Prince George’s County police on a high-profile homicide case that revealed an organized crime ring in Fort Washington.

The NCIS was investigating the disappearance of Navy Petty Officer Lea Anne Brown, a missing persons case when Prince George’s police found her body and that of her boyfriend, Michael Patten, June 12 in Accokeek.